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DIARIES OF
WILLIAM JOHNSTON TEMPLE
1780-1796

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

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DIARIES OF
WILLIAM JOHNSTON
TEMPLE

1780—1796

Edited with a Memoir
by
LEWIS BETTANY

OXFORD

AT THE CLARENDON PRESS

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To
OLIVER ONIONS
A TRIBUTE OF AFFECTION
TO THE MAN AND OF ESTEEM
TO THE WRITER

P R E F A C E

I CANNOT allow this edition of William Johnston Temple's Diaries to go to the press unaccompanied by an expression of my grateful obligations to Mrs. Powlett of Leamington, great-granddaughter of the diarist, who has been good enough to place unreservedly at my disposal the whole of the Temple manuscripts belonging to her, and to Dr. R. W. Chapman, Secretary to the Delegates of the Clarendon Press, whose many invaluable suggestions and corrections have helped materially to lighten my task as editor. My acknowledgements are also due to Professor C. B. Tinker of Yale University, who has kindly afforded me an opportunity of examining several original letters in his possession written by and to Temple, which have enabled me to ascribe to Norton Nicholls the well-known anti-Johnsonian declaration quoted on p. lxxi of the "Memoir", and to identify the owner of the Blackadder property alluded to in the Second Diary on p. 43. My indebtedness to Mr. L. F. Powell of the Taylor Institution, I mention in the "Introduction" to the Sixth Diary. It only remains for me to thank Miss Fremantle, late of the Clarendon Press, for her happy deciphering of three or four very puzzling words in the manuscript of the Fifth Diary.

L. B.

June, 1929.

CONTENTS

MEMOIR OF W. J. TEMPLE

I. Rector of Mamhead, Devon . . .	ix
II. Vicar of St. Gluvias, Cornwall . . .	xxxiii

FIRST DIARY

Introduction	I
1780	9
1781	17
1782	19

SECOND DIARY

Introduction	26
1783	35
1784	45
1785	47
1786	51
1787	51
1788	53

THIRD DIARY

Introduction	60
1790	72
1791	88

FOURTH DIARY

Introduction	97
1793	101

FIFTH DIARY

Introduction	116
1795	125

SIXTH DIARY

Introduction	148
1796	156

I

RECTOR OF MAMHEAD, DEVONSHIRE

WILLIAM JOHNSTON TEMPLE, friend of Boswell, 'characterizer of Gray', grandfather of Frederick Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury, was born at Berwick-on-Tweed on December 6th, 1739, the son of William Temple of Allerdean and of his wife, a Miss Stow of Northumberland. His father held some post in the Customs and was twice Mayor of Berwick, in 1750 and in 1754; his mother came of good stock and possessed a small estate of her own. His father and paternal grandfather being Presbyterians belonging to an old Border family, young Temple received his early education at the University of Edinburgh, where he was a fellow-student with James Boswell and with Henry Dundas, subsequently Viscount Melville. In the class of Robert Hunter, the Professor of Greek, and in that of John Stevenson, teacher of Latin, Boswell and he contracted an intimate friendship, which lasted without interruption all their lives; and this though the one was a Tory and a wine-bibber and the other a Whig and a water-drinker. *Letters of James Boswell. Addressed to the Rev. W. J. Temple* (1857), supplemented by Gray's letters to Norton Nicholls and by Temple's letters to Lord Lisburne¹ and to Edward Jerningham,² constitute the main authority for Temple's life. Though this series of letters is broken by no less than fourteen gaps, which cover in all a period of nearly twenty-eight years, it ends a few days only before Boswell's death on May 19th, 1795, and begins on July 19th, 1758, by which time Temple had left Edinburgh.

On May 22nd of that year he had been admitted pensioner at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, and on February 5th, 1759, he became a scholar on the foundation. Our almost complete

¹ See Egerton MSS. 2136.

² See *Edward Jerningham and His Friends*.

ignorance of the general tenor of his life at Cambridge is lightened just a little by three references which Boswell makes to it in his letters to his friend.¹ From these references certain conclusions may, I suppose, be drawn, first that Temple found his set at Trinity Hall as profligate and disagreeable as Gibbon had found his at Magdalen College; second that, avoiding such unruly companions, he was fortunate enough to make the acquaintance of Gray; third that he had no higher esteem for the average Cambridge don than Gibbon expressed for the average Oxford don; fourth that it was with great reluctance that he entered on his second period of residence at Trinity Hall; and fifth that, though he received one visit at least at the University from Boswell (whether paid in term or vacation does not appear), on which occasion he read and discussed Gray with him, he contrived somehow or other to refuse him facilities for adding the poet to his collection of celebrities.

On November 20th, 1761, Temple took his name off the books of the Hall and made his way to London, where at his chambers in Farrar's Buildings, which he subsequently lent to Boswell for his more convenient access to Dr. Johnson, at this time living at 1, Inner Temple Lane, the two friends met as law-students at the end of 1762. Neither, however, was destined to pursue a barrister's career in town. For the next ten years, indeed, his father's embarrassed circumstances involved Temple in continual financial worries; and all his life he seems to have been so periodically hard-up that he borrowed as freely from Boswell as Boswell borrowed from him. Towards the end of 1762 Temple senior became bankrupt and lost his post in the Customs, and his son satisfied the creditors at the expense of nearly half the proceeds of the estate which he had inherited from his mother just two years earlier. About this same time he seems also to have been worried by the affairs of his younger brother Robert, a rollicking and extravagant young lieutenant on half-pay,

¹ See letters dated December 16th, 1763, July 14th, 1763, April 4th, 1775.

who had for some weeks shared his rooms at the Inner Temple with Boswell, greatly to that gentleman's discomfort and dissatisfaction.¹ Concerned at his friend's misfortunes, the latter, then on his travels, wrote from Geneva on December 26th, 1764, to Mr. (afterwards Sir) Andrew Mitchell, the British Plenipotentiary at Berlin, seeking to secure through his interest the conferment of some post in the Civil Service on Temple senior and the replacement of Robert Temple on full pay. What came of this intervention is not now discoverable; certain it is, however, that W. J. Temple, compelled to adopt a profession, determined to choose the clerical one. So, with a view to obtaining the necessary qualification, he returned to Trinity Hall, where he was admitted fellow-commoner on June 22nd, 1763, and took the degree of LL.B. on June 28th, 1765, finally removing his name from the books on June 13th, 1766. I should add that Norton Nicholls, his friend and contemporary at Trinity Hall, took the same degree in 1766.

Liberal in his opinions, fond of literature, and amiable in his disposition, Temple had, as we have seen, formed at Cambridge a friendship with Gray, whose interests in history, archaeology, landscape-gardening, and foreign literature he seems fully to have shared. In the course of a visit which he made to London in 1766 he was introduced by Boswell, at the Mitre Tavern in Fleet Street, to Dr. Johnson. (On this occasion, under date of February 15th in the *Life*, he is described as 'The Rev. Mr. Temple'; but, as will be seen later, he was at this time still a layman.) What sort of impression 'the great Cham of literature' made on the young Cambridge man at this meeting and at a subsequent one, which took place on May 7th, 1773, at the house of Messrs. Edward and Charles Dilly, 'booksellers', is not recorded by Boswell, who had probably already prejudiced Temple against Johnson by telling him how little the Doctor cared for the poetry of Gray. But, inasmuch as at

¹ See Boswell's letters to Temple dated July 14th, 19th, and 27th, 1763.

the Mitre Johnson denounced Rousseau as 'a rascal' and as 'a very bad man' who deserved transportation, and at the publishers' table, in the company of Bennet Langton, Dr. Goldsmith, and the Dissenting Minister, Dr. Mayo, enunciated his familiar High Tory views on religious toleration, I cannot imagine that he found a very sympathetic hearer in Temple, who, besides believing in the completest liberty of conscience, was, like most of Edward Jerningham's lay and clerical friends, a staunch admirer of the author of *La Nouvelle Héloïse*, and indeed described him in a letter to Jerningham written so late as August 23rd, 1791, as 'our divine Rousseau'. In any case it seems to have been the practice of Temple to be silent in a mixed assembly; for, according to Boswell, he could sit quite serene, placid and happy in company where perhaps he had hardly opened his mouth.¹

On Sunday, September 14th, 1766, as William Johnson Temple, he was made deacon at a particular ordination held in the chapel of the Palace of Exeter by Frederick Keppel, Bishop of that Diocese, brother of the famous Admiral, and kinsman by marriage to Horace Walpole. On the following Sunday, at a general ordination held in the cathedral, he was made a priest by the same bishop. Next day, on the presentation of his friend and cousin once removed, Wilmot Vaughan, 4th Viscount Lisburne, he was instituted to the rectory of Mamhead, adjoining Starcross, and distant about ten miles from Exeter, a living which, being worth then a bare £80 a year, could hardly be regarded as furnishing him with an independent income. In the late spring of 1767 he paid a visit to London. In July of the same year, having journeyed north to Berwick, presumably to arrange his affairs preparatory to his marriage, he took the opportunity of comparative proximity to Boswell to spend a few days with him at Edinburgh. On August 6th, 1767, he was married at Berwick to Ann Stow, daughter of William Stow of that

¹ See Boswell's letter to Temple dated August 24th, 1768.

town, a 'well-read' young lady of twenty, possessed of an estate and of a fortune of £1300, who seems to have been his mother's niece. He spent part at least of his honeymoon in London.¹ Next year, by the bankruptcy of Mr. Fenwick Stow, who was his own and his wife's grandfather and had been Mayor of Berwick, and through the payment of an annuity to that other ex-Mayor of Berwick, his father, he was again plunged into financial difficulties. But he seems not to have given way to his troubles; for about this time he managed to revise his friend's *Corsican Journal*, secured the author as godfather to his first-born son, and received with what optimism he could muster the announcement of his temporary chastity. By this time indeed he was probably well aware that such periodical declarations of abstinence from women and wine were likely to be as customary with Boswell as his general reservation of the pleasant vices to himself and of the austere virtues to his friend. Two years later his financial resources were again strained; for in May, 1770, he contemplated changing his profession, and in November he was compelled to sell part of his remaining property. This latter business involved him in a journey to Northumberland, in the course of which he visited his friend—now married to his cousin Peggy Montgomerie and partly reformed—at Chessels's Buildings in the Canongate, a famous quarter in which Boswell had as his neighbours men of letters like Adam Smith, Dugald Stewart, and Dr. Gregory, and judges of the standing of Lord Kames and Lord Monboddo. Six months later his 'pious imprudence', to adopt Gray's description of Temple's filial solicitude, had involved him in fresh distresses; for about this time, judged by a letter which Gray wrote to Nicholls on May 20th, 1771, the latter was hoping to obtain for him material assistance from Lord Lisburne, which the former thought might take shape in a recommendation either to the vacant chaplaincy at Leghorn or to some living

¹ See Boswell's letter to Temple dated October 2nd, 1767.

in Ireland in the gift of the Earl of Bristol, the notorious Bishop of Derry.

Gray died on July 30th, 1771, and soon afterwards Temple wrote a 'character' of him and sent it to Boswell, who, though he had asked his friend for an introduction to the poet,¹ seems never to have obtained one and never to have met him.² This 'character' its recipient published anonymously and without authority in the *London Magazine*, or *Gentleman's Intelligencer*, for March, 1772, introducing it as follows:

'The great and universal fame which Mr. Gray acquired by the few, but very excellent, poetical pieces which he published . . . has rendered him an important character in the literary world. . . . It must give great pleasure to all admirers of true genius to be informed that we are to have the life of Gray written by his ingenious friend Mr. Mason. There can be no doubt that this work will be admirably executed. . . . In the meantime, in some degree to gratify a natural and agreeable curiosity, the readers of the *London Magazine* are presented with a short sketch of the character of Mr. Gray by a gentleman of Cambridge of much learning and ingenuity who knew him well.'

Three years later Mason incorporated the 'character' verbatim in his *Memoirs* of the poet, with this preface:

'I might here lay down my pen; yet, if any reader should still want his character, I will give him one which was published very soon after Mr. Gray's decease. It appears to be well written; and, as it came from an anonymous pen, I choose the rather to insert it, as it will on that account be less suspected of partiality.'

This is how the delighted Boswell announces the incorporation to Temple:³

'Mr. Mason concludes his *Life of Gray* with a character

¹ In a letter dated May 14th, 1768.

² See Boswell's letter to Garrick dated September 18th, 1771.

³ In a letter dated April 4th, 1775.

of him . . . which, he says, he has taken from the *London Magazine*. . . . What is this, think you? but a character of Gray written by you to me in a letter soon after his death, and which I greatly admired and copied out for the magazine of which I am a proprietor? . . . When you and I sat up all night at Cambridge and read Gray with a noble enthusiasm . . . how would (or should) we have been elated to know that a character drawn by you should be placed by the hands of Mason upon the top of Gray's pyramid as a suitable *apex*.

Having given Mason's *Gray* a puff preliminary in the *London Magazine* three years earlier, Boswell now proceeded to boom the published work in the same periodical, but still in the interests of the 'character'. Accordingly the opening article in the May number of the magazine consisted in:

'Remarks on the Life and Writings of the celebrated poet Mr. Gray, late Professor of Modern History in the University of Cambridge, with a Character of him. Originally published in the *London Magazine*, adopted by Mr. Mason and now illustrated with notes.'

At the conclusion of the notice of Mason's work the remarker divulges the fact that the character, thus adopted, 'was written by the Rev. Mr. Temple, rector of Mamhead in Devonshire, in a letter to Mr. Boswell'. He then reprints it, along with Mason's notes on it, and winds up by describing it this time as 'an *apex* upon the top of *the monument of Gray*'.

Towards the end of May Boswell wrote to Mason inviting him to include the name of the author of the 'character' in a later edition of his work; but the ungrateful biographer not only declined this invitation, in an 'answer very dry and ill-humoured', but had the 'arrogance' to make 'strictures' on the 'character', which remains anonymous alike in the 1775 and in the 1778 edition of the *Memoirs*. That these strictures were directed against that part of it which exposed Gray's 'weakness'—his reluctance 'to be considered merely

as a man of letters' and his 'desire to be looked upon as a private independent gentleman who read for his amusement'—I can hardly imagine; for Mason would only have been human if he had regarded this exposure, made by another friend of the poet, as some set-off for the humiliating kindness which he had himself received from Gray. That Temple's frankness, however, was not appreciated in Strawberry Hill circles proper may be gathered, I think, obliquely at least, from a passage contained in the letter which Nicholls wrote to Temple from the Earl of Findlater's on November 3rd, 1779. In this passage 'the Abbé' gives his reasons for being not quite satisfied with Dr. Robertson:

'I must confess I took a little prejudice against him for blaming Mason's publication, for not seeming to relish Gray's letters, and for saying that, when he saw Mr. Gray in Scotland, he gave him the idea of a person who meant *to pass for a very fine gentleman*. This was not quite polite to me.'

Not content with having published the 'character' in the *London Magazine* and of having secured its incorporation in Mason's biography of Gray—it was he surely who brought it to the biographer's notice?—Boswell determined that it should be annexed to that notice of Gray which Johnson was to include in his *Lives of the English Poets*. Into what manœuvres this enterprise may have betrayed the industrious 'drummer' the disappearance of his letters written to Temple between 1781 and 1786 forbids us to discover. All we know is that the method of annexation which the Doctor adopted was dry rather than cordial. His notice of Gray was published early in 1781 in Volume 10 of 'Prefaces, biographical and critical, to the works of the English Poets'; and Temple's 'character' was introduced as follows:

'His character I am willing to adopt, as Mr. Mason has done, from a nameless writer; and am as willing as his warmest friend to believe it true.'

Boswell, however, was not satisfied with this anonymous adoption; and Johnson seems to have promised to insert the writer's name in a later edition of the *Lives*. Accordingly he wrote to Boswell on August 24th, 1782:

'My *Lives* are reprinting, and I have forgotten the author of Gray's character: write immediately, and it may be perhaps yet inserted.'

This was the manner of the insertion:

'His character I am willing to adopt, as Mr. Mason has done, from a letter written to my friend, Mr. Boswell, by the Rev. Mr. Temple, Vicar of St. Gluvias in Cornwall; and am as willing as his warmest well-wishers to believe it true.'

The reader will observe that in this revised version of the introduction of the 'character' not only is the author's name inserted but that 'warmest friend' has been changed to 'warmest well-wishers'. But he is probably *not* aware that Johnson, willing as he professed himself to adopt the 'character', adopts it in its entirety in neither of the editions of the *Lives* published in his lifetime. In both he omits Temple's declaration that Gray was 'a well-bred man'. Whether this strange omission, which seems to have escaped the notice of both Gray's and Johnson's editors, was deliberate or inadvertent it is difficult to decide. True, the Doctor never made any secret of his dislike of Gray the poet. But open confession of dislike seems hardly compatible with what looks like secret attack; and at first sight it is hard to believe that Johnson, who plumed himself on being well-bred, could think it accordant with his duties as biographer *silently* to suppress a similar compliment paid to Gray the man. In a case of this sort, however, the strict canons of modern criticism can hardly apply. Johnson was a good hater, and hated Milton so much that he was ready and even eager to believe him a plagiarist. A rather lazy man, he thought he might honestly write the *Lives of the English*

Poets without taking the trouble of re-reading all his authors. And, if he deliberately suppressed Temple's compliment to Gray, as I am convinced he must have done, it was probably because he had succeeded in persuading himself that an omission which appeared to render the 'character' more consistent was fairly justifiable and need not be advertised. Such editing, or rather garbling, is of course indefensible, and was doubly indefensible in the case of Johnson, who valued truth only second to courage among the virtues. Compared, however, with Mason's wholesale tampering with the text of Gray's letters, Johnson's offence *against the poet* can hardly be reckoned very flagitious.

Still stranger than his omission of four significant words from the 'character' was the failure of the Doctor to remember the name of its author. But in the autumn of 1782 Johnson was nearly seventy-three and was only slowly recovering from a succession of disorders and deprivations. It was this affliction doubtless that accounted for his inability to recognize in the 'characterizer of Gray' a friend of Boswell's who seven years previously, thanks to that gentleman's propensity for setting his friends by the ears, had seemed to score very effectively over him in the controversy about Anglo-American relations. Johnson had forgotten not the encounter but the name of the encounterer. Here is the story of the affair as Boswell tells it in the *Life* under date of March 21st, 1775:

'His pamphlets in support of the measures of administration . . . drew upon him numerous attacks. . . . There were two instances of animadversion which I communicated to him, and from what I could judge, both from his silence and his looks, [they] appeared to me to impress him much. One was . . . The other instance was a paragraph of a letter to me, from my old and most intimate friend the Rev. Mr. Temple. . . . The words were:

"How can your great, I will not say your *pious*, but your *moral* friend, support the barbarous measures of administration which

they have not the face to ask even their infidel pensioner Hume to defend?"

However confident of the rectitude of his own mind, Johnson may have felt sincere uneasiness that his conduct should be erroneously imputed to unworthy motives by good men.'

Temple's score, however, was more apparent than real. Neither Johnson nor Hume owed any sort of obligation to Lord North. The former's pension of £300 a year was awarded him in 1762 by the Earl of Bute, the King's 'friend'. The latter's pension of £400 a year was granted him in 1765 by the Marquis of Rockingham, the Whig Prime Minister. A due consideration of these facts must soon have convinced Johnson that his critic's jibe, which derived half its graveness from the Doctor's own definition of a pension as 'pay given to a State hireling for treason to his country', must inevitably surrender the other half to any unbiased scrutiny of the circumstances in which the two allowances were bestowed.

It is rather bewildering, however, to learn from a letter written to Temple by Boswell on June 19th, 1775, that the inventor of the phrase 'their infidel pensioner Hume' was the very same person who had asked Boswell to collect stories about 'the infidel': yet such was the case! Here is Boswell's reply to this request:¹

'Since I came down, I have seen Mr. David Hume several times. I know you love to hear little anecdotes of him. So I shall endeavour to cull as many as I can.'

More surprising still is it to find that the—clerical—author of *An Essay on the Clergy; their Studies, Recreations, Decline of Influence, &c., &c.*, not only thought good to include among his own 'recreations' the collection of anecdotes of a notorious 'infidel', but was actually one of his friends, and was indeed responsible for introducing Boswell to him. The

¹ Dated June 19th, 1775.

very first extant letter written by Boswell to Temple¹ gives an account of this introduction:

‘Some days ago I was introduced to your friend Mr. Hume; he is a most discreet, affable man as ever I met with, and has really a great deal of learning, and a choice collection of books. He is indeed an extraordinary man, few such people are to be met with nowadays. We talk a great deal of genius, fine language, improving our style, &c., but I am afraid solid learning is much wore out. Mr. Hume, I think, is a very proper person for a young man to cultivate an acquaintance with; though he has not, perhaps, the most delicate taste, yet he has apply’d himself with great attention to the study of the ancients, and is likewise a great historian, so that you are not only entertained in his company, but may reap a great deal of usefull instruction. I own myself much obliged to you, dear Sir, for procuring me the pleasure of his acquaintance.’

But Boswell not only proved his readiness to regale his friend with tit-bits of gossip and to diffuse his literary fame; he visited him twice at Mamhead, first possibly in 1772, and again, accompanied by the Corsican patriot, General Paoli, in April 1775, on which latter occasion, reclining beneath the shade of an ancient yew-tree, he made one of his periodical declarations of his determination to be moderate in the use of drink. In the meantime, that is to say in 1774, Temple’s *Essay on the Clergy*, already alluded to, had been brought out by Messrs. Edward and Charles Dilly. As being the only published work to which the author put his name, this little brochure of just one hundred pages calls for some attention. The impression one gets from reading it is surprise that a man of thirty-four should have been dull enough to write and duller still to publish so very juvenile a work. It is quite sensible in the main; but it is so very naive and pedantic

¹ That dated July 29th, 1758.

that it might have been composed in its author's nonage. On page 39, apropos of 'natural religion and morality', Johnson is complimented in a foot-note as follows:

'Let me also add the admirable and sublime moral Essays of that great benefactor to English literature, Dr. Johnson, to whom we are indebted for the noblest Dictionary of any language.'

On page 41 Gray is introduced as recommending a study of Rapin:

'The foreigner Rapin, though no painter, though in him are no pointed reflections, no highly-coloured portraits, yet (and it was the opinion of the late Mr. Gray, peculiarly learned in English History) you will find him a faithful and candid guide.'

In another foot-note allusion is made to

'The universally acknowledged merits of the histories of Mr. Hume and of Dr. Robertson, in which are united depth of reflection, and an interesting relation of facts.'

On page 79 clerical recreations are circumscribed:

'Let us avoid all vulgar and unimproving amusements. Surely neither the pleasures of the chace, of the ball-room, or of the turf, are becoming the character of a minister of Jesus, of a teacher of the precepts and doctrines of the Gospel.'

But, relenting a little, Temple adds the following foot-note to 'ball-room':

'Perhaps only a too frequent appearance there would be improper.'

In the sixth chapter, 'Of the Style of the Pulpit', he gives his brethren another piece of advice:

'Though it would be almost ridiculous to caution a person of education and property, that he must not lie, that he must not pilfer, or get intoxicated with ale or English

spirits; yet such language might be used with propriety enough to a shopkeeper, an handicraft, a labourer.'

This counsel is conveyed in such loose language that its meaning is by no means perspicuous. Temple appears to think that, in respect of the vices of lying, stealing, and getting drunk, the poor man must be considered to be inferior to the rich man. But, whether he holds him to be inferior in moral sense and instinct or in moral worth and practice, I cannot determine. In any case the Rector's judgement is opposed to general human experience. Fortunately however for Temple, his sort of pastoral theology proved quite acceptable to the bishops and clergy to whom the 'Essay' was dedicated. Dr. Horne, President of Magdalen College, Oxford, and subsequently Bishop of Norwich, greatly admired it; while Dr. Keppel, Bishop of Exeter, found it so much to his liking that he promised to provide for the essayist.¹

I get the impression that Temple's eleven years' residence in Devonshire was rather needlessly dismal. His father's financial straits and his own poorly-paid living must of course have rendered this period a very anxious one. But its anxieties should have had their alleviations. Newly married to a handsome young wife whom he had courted for several years, settled in one of the most charming spots of a delightful county, a welcome visitor to the houses of men of rank and taste like Lord Clifford, Lord Edgcumbe, Viscount Courtenay, and Viscount Lisburne, living in the neighbourhood of the last-mentioned peer and given the free run of his fine library, Temple might have been expected to be moderately happy, however uncongenial he may have found the local and professional society to which he was generally restricted and however unpopular he may have been among the squires, whose conversation he despised, whose drinking habits he detested, and whose blood sports he loathed. But his own restless, excitable, and self-tormenting temperament

¹ See Boswell's letter to Temple dated March 18th, 1775.

seems rarely to have allowed him to be happy for long. His wife, too, failed to get on with his friends. Though in later years she allowed Boswell to profess to consider himself 'a favourite' with her, she appears to have heartily disliked him; and she would never accompany her husband on visits to him. Moreover, and this may well have been the most disturbing circumstance of all, letters were continuously arriving from Boswell, many of which bore obvious traces of having been written under the influence of that maudlin sentimentality which drink produces. Boswell's professions of eternal friendship and assumptions of the hortatory style could, of course, only provoke a smile; but his effusive and rollicking accounts of his 'jaunts and jollities', to quote Mr. Jorrocks's biographer, cannot but have had a very turbulent effect on his correspondent's unbalanced disposition. They must sometimes have disgusted Temple by the coarse details they gave of the writer's sexual and alcoholic debauches, with their lamentable sequels; while occasionally in the winter months, when the young parson saw many of his neighbours setting off for town, they must have made him look back almost regretfully on his early abandonment of London, law, and bachelorhood.

In the 'languor and discontent' of his life at Mamhead, as the Northern hypochondriac describes the 'distemper' to the Western hypochondriac,¹ the inability of Temple to establish cordial relations with Lord Lisburne seems to have played a prominent part. Eleven months after his appointment as rector he had taken to wife a young lady whose haughty spirit won for her from Gray the sobriquet of 'Madame Minx'.² Henceforward constant little frictions seem to have arisen between the rectory and the great house. From the autumn indeed of 1767 to the spring of 1771 Temple appears to have nursed one grievance after another against Lord Lisburne. And Mrs. Temple, like any other

¹ In a letter dated August 12th, 1775.

² See Gray's letter to Norton Nicholls dated December 31st, 1767.

wife, doubtless nursed such grievances even more passionately than did her husband. What the origin of the trouble was it is impossible to say exactly; for all our real information is derived from Gray's replies to Norton Nicholls's letters, and consequently we only possess the poet's comments on the situation. It seems pretty plain, however, that what Temple suffered from at his rectory was physical discomfort; and it also appears that as early as the beginning of 1768 he found this discomfort so intolerable that he tried to exchange his Devonshire living for one at Berwick, a district in which both he and his wife owned property. A reference made to the 'parsonage house' by Gray, who seems to have visited Temple and met Temple's wife there, obviously indicates that the rectory was too small or in bad repair and that the rector's request for extensions or improvements fell on deaf ears. But we happen to have direct evidence of the rectory's lack of accommodation. In a letter written to Ann Stow three months before his ordination and fourteen months before his marriage to her, a letter now destroyed but still remembered by the Powlett family, Temple complains bitterly of 'the wretchedness of the parsonage'. Revisiting it nearly twenty years later he finds that it has suffered a sea-change; for this is how he describes it in a letter to Edward Jerningham dated October 3rd, 1785:

'I am just returned from passing ten days at Mamhead.
... My humble parsonage is converted into a palace.'

That it had been incommodious Boswell's letters to Temple plainly prove. One dated September 9th, 1767, contains the following proposal:

'I offer my best compliments to Mrs. Temple, to whom
I hope to pay my respects next spring at Mamhead.'

But obviously Temple could not entertain the idea—could not, that is to say, put his friend up at the rectory; for here is Boswell's remonstrance, written on April 16th, 1768:

'Shall we not meet? Have you positively no bed in your

parsonage for me? But may I not come and sit up a night with you? if Mrs. Temple will allow it. I would ask you to come to London; but I wish to see you at your own table, with your wife!’

In a much later letter dispatched from Edinburgh on December 9th, 1768, in response to a despairing note received from Temple, Boswell examines his friend’s general situation and, after profering much sympathy, declares:

‘I cannot approve of your wishing to leave your family. It was a sudden wish, while your mind was unhinged. Do not allow yourself to suppose that Lord L. will do nothing more for you. He is your relation. Keep well with him, and things may come about. . . . I should like much to have you settled in the English Chappel here. But I believe the income is less than at your present residence.’

That Lord Lisburne, however, would do nothing further for Temple about this time a letter which Gray addresses from Pembroke College to Nicholls on February 5th, 1768, makes abundantly clear:

‘I intend to return you the letters by to-morrow’s fly, if nothing hinders. I am never the wiser nor the more able to account for T’s letter to Lady L., which gave occasion for all the rest. It still looks like the suggestion of his wife working upon his own natural irritability; and the sort of request made in it for the Berwick living—at so improper a time—is not any other way to be accounted for.

The *sensible and manly* answer to it, I must own, I cannot easily digest, especially the end of it. It is plain, as he wrote on, he worked his temper into a ferment, till at last it absolutely turned sour. . . . In his second letter he is conscious that he had gone too far in his expressions, and tries to give them a sense they will not bear. But I allow he is throughout too angry and contemptuous. Your last letter to him (though I never saw it) I conclude

has done no hurt, perhaps has softened him a little. Everything depends on the manner of their meeting in Devonshire, which by this time you probably know. I do not yet see why all this passion, why all this trouble of justifying himself for a man for whom he never had any kindness nor regard, and who can be of little use to him in point of interest. Temp. is too precipitate, too rough too in his expressions, too much the aggressor, if he thinks Lord L. really his friend. And, if he does not, how in the midst of his resentment can he bring himself to show a desire of accepting further favours from him?’

From this epistle, which I quote from Mr. Duncan Tovey’s edition of *The Letters of Thomas Gray*, the reader will gather three pieces of information. First of all that Mrs. Temple, after less than six months’ residence at Mamhead Rectory, was anxious to leave the place. Secondly, that Temple applied for the Berwick living and received from Lord Lisburne an angry and contemptuous refusal. Thirdly, that, in Gray’s estimation, Temple’s rejoinder was precipitate, rough, and aggressive.

In a later but undated letter—letter 339—the poet asks Nicholls an important question and begs him to transmit to Temple some useful advice:

‘Is not the date he sets to the beginning of Lord L’s coldness to him carried a little too far back? Did it not really begin a little later, when he had brought his wife to Mamhead, and they did not much like her? . . . I have, to be sure, a little prejudice to Madame; but yet I must be candid enough to own that the parsonage house sticks a little in my stomach.

‘My best remembrances to Temple; and tell him I wish he would not give too much way to his own sensibilities, and still less, in this case, to the sensibilities of other people. It is always time enough to quarrel with one’s friends.’

In a still later letter, written two months only before his

death, Gray is still urging Nicholls to try to bring about a better understanding between the peer and the parson. He is perfectly aware that the former's indifference to the latter's distress is not due to ignorance; but he is not unhopeful: 'men sometimes catch that feeling from a stranger which should originally have sprung from their own hearts.' I have already mentioned the two proposals for Temple's relief which are discussed in this letter: the living in Ireland and the Leghorn chaplaincy. Neither project materialized.

It is possible, of course, that Gray and Nicholls, both bachelors and both fairly well off, were apt to take rather too detached and objective a view of the circumstances in which their married and financially distressed friend was placed. They made, perhaps, insufficient allowance for the passionate resentment which he must have felt at being compelled to settle his young wife in so uncomfortable and uncongenial a neighbourhood as Mamhead. But the Temples themselves may not have been very comfortable neighbours. She seems to have been rather forbidding, cold to her husband, not too cordial to his friends, and perhaps not very deferential to his patron. He too (I mean Temple), if he was not quarrelsome and humourless like Hazlitt, appears at any rate hardly to have learnt to take people as he found them, not as they should be but as they are. A silent brooding man, easily rendered irritable and suspicious, he was not disposed to be conciliatory in airing a grievance. On May 12th, 1772, about a year after Gray wrote his final letter to Nicholls about him, he again got into collision with Lord Lisburne. He had occasion to complain of his lordship's agent, a Mr. Clarke, for championing against the overseers of the parish and the local justices of the peace 'one Johnson, a journeyman shoemaker', who refused to allow his son, a boy of fourteen who could not even read his catechism, to be bound apprentice to a certain Farmer Soper. Yet, far from confining himself to a calm and sober relation of this petty chapter of village politics, he accuses Clarke of tyranny and

calls him 'Viceroy and another Strafford' in the very first sentence of his letter. He may of course have had a good case; but this certainly was hardly the right way of stating it. Three years later he was again making complaints to Lord Lisburne, this time seemingly about some slights which he conceived that he himself had received from his lordship. But evidently the slights must have been largely imaginary and the complaints ill-founded; for of the three letters that Temple wrote to Lisburne in October, 1775, the two that are extant are rather painfully apologetic. As shedding a good deal of light on Temple's rather enigmatic character I quote them verbatim. The first runs as follows:

'My Lord,

'Lest my letter should have given offence by being misunderstood, I trouble your Lordship a second time, to confess myself extremely sorry and to beg your Lordship's forgiveness of any thing exceptionable or unbecoming in it. I meant nothing but to express the anguish of an oppressed mind, ill able to bear contempt, and suspicious of being overlooked and slighted by a character from which I always reckoned on a liberal indulgence in debate, protection and countenance in general intercourse. Do me the justice to allow that this concern and acknowledgement of error does not proceed from interested views: my principal fear is lest your Lordship should think me forgetful of favours and kindnesses already received. I can neither acquiesce in the present nor desire new ones at the price of improper submission; and I believe your Lordship has none to bestow on those terms. I am, my Lord, under much uneasiness,

'Your Lordship's most obliged humble servant

W. J. Temple.

'October 13th, 1775.

'P.S. There is one passage in the letter where the expression is perplexed and seemingly disrespectful. My meaning was that, when friends and followers are sus-

pected of none but interested views, or distinction and notice are thought due rather to property and accidental advantages than to real and acquired merit, such maxims throw a damp on attachment and affection and discourage virtue. For whatever there may be unsuitable or disrespectful in the former expression of this statement I again entreat your Lordship's indulgence and pardon.'

Whether the misunderstanding could have been cleared up better by talking than by writing it is impossible to say. Temple seems, however, to have been one of those timid folk whose natural instinct prompts them to send a man a letter rather than to face him in an interview. The result, in this particular case, was not happy. The postscript robbed the letter of dignity. In the very act of apologizing for old offences the writer committed new ones; so keenly did his grievances rankle. Lord Lisburne seems to have done his best to put matters right by answering the letter immediately and decently. But poor Temple, afflicted with a fatal incapacity for letting well alone, must needs write a third letter. Here it is, generous enough, but still mingling explanations with apologies:

'My Lord,

'I had not an opportunity last night of making your Lordship my best acknowledgements of your indulgent and most friendly letter. Were it not so strong a proof of your real regard for me, I should have been equally concerned and ashamed your Lordship had ever occasion to write it. *I do believe* you are the best friend I have in the world and that my surmises are generally unfounded. For the future let me beg of your Lordship to consider me as more inviolably attached than ever to your person and family by gratitude, respect, esteem, affection.

'I did not mean tyrannous in the sense you take it. Your Lordship's general treatment of me has neither been arrogant nor humiliating; it has often been kind and generous. Alas! my Lord, do not attribute to foolish pride what is

probably owing to nature or, a very different cause, in some degree to the fear of giving offence and the imputation of forwardness.

‘As you have had the generosity and kindness to overlook and to pardon my indiscretion and groundless suspicions on this occasion, should I ever be so weak and unfortunate as to relapse into them again, they shall only prey upon my own mind, never be the cause of dissatisfaction to your Lordship.

‘Believe me, with the greatest truth, my Lord,

‘Your Lordship’s most obliged and

attached humble servant

‘Mamhead

‘W. J. Temple.

‘October 14th, 1775.’

Where the blame in general for these misunderstandings lay, whether in Lord Lisburne’s coolness or in Temple’s morbid sensibility, must in our comparative lack of evidence remain matter of dubiety. What is more difficult to explain is the occurrence of misunderstandings so late as October, 1775. On May 10th Boswell had told his friend:

‘I breakfasted with his Lordship of Lisburne yesterday. He has a great value for you, and knows you perfectly. He said if you had been the greatest chief in Scotland, he could not have treated you with more respect. My Lady is very amiable and spoke of you in such terms as charmed me. . . . My Lord’s chief expectations for you are from the Bishop of Exeter. His own chaplain only stands between you and promotion in his diocese.’

Having received such an assurance Temple might have been expected to be patient and to keep his feelings to himself. But he was not a very tactful man; and so he had the supreme mortification of discovering that he had been complaining ‘of being overlooked and slighted’ at the very time at which his patron was straining his influence to help him. Before October, 1775, was out he was in fact able to announce to Boswell that he had received a promise of ‘the best living in

the diocese of Exeter; the present incumbent 86!'¹ and that this promise had been obtained from the Bishop of Exeter by Lord Lisburne.¹ It may be argued of course that the statement that the latter strained his influence with the former is a pure assumption, and that Dr. Keppel may have been determined to promote a clergyman who, like himself, was a Whig and a pro-American. But on the other hand he may have been pleased to be solicited on Temple's behalf by so great a personage as Lisburne. In any case such solicitation was easier to grant than to urge. Augustus Keppel, the Admiral, was at this time at daggers drawn with the Earl of Sandwich, the First Lord of the Admiralty. And it must have been awkward for Lord Lisburne, who was Sandwich's junior colleague, to ask a favour from the Admiral's brother. It may also have been risky; for if King George had known nine months later that a certain Lord of the Admiralty had recommended for preferment a parson who was hostile to the subjugation of the American rebels, Viscount Lisburne might never have been created an Earl. But the fact seems never to have been brought to his Majesty's notice. So Lisburne received his step on June 24th, 1776; while on September 9th Temple was collated to the vicarage of St. Gluvias, near the Cornish towns of Penryn and Falmouth.

The vicar of St. Gluvias was grateful to the Earl of Lisburne. But he was a man who could rarely be trusted to take correct measure of his dues; consequently his expressions of obligation were wont to be as exaggerated as his statements of claim. The message which he sent to his patron (on May 5th, 1777) *pour prendre congé*:

'I have now passed near eleven years in this beautiful scene, with some uneasiness, but with more pleasure. Your valuable library has been an inexhaustible fund of entertainment and instruction to me; you have honoured me with numberless civilities, numberless kindnesses;

¹ See Boswell's letter to Temple dated November 6th, 1775.

and by your influence and friendship now transplant me to a most liberal and desirable situation. Neither time nor distance shall ever allow me to think of Mamhead without a kind of melancholy but pleasing regard, nor of Lord and Lady Lisburne without respect and affection.'

is quite admirable in its balance, thankful and cordial without being effusive. It is, however, a little indiscriminating; for it was his Bishop who had 'transplanted' Temple, Lisburne having merely urged his transplantation. But the invitation to his lordship to revise his 'papers' (conveyed in a letter dated November 25th, 1777) contains a passage which can only be described as nauseous. Making all allowance for the fact that the proximity and intimacy of Mamhead suited neither the Temples nor the Vaughans and that separation made them, if not the best of friends, at least as good friends as ever they could be, I can only regard the profession that follows as abject and unmanly:

'I am going to transcribe my papers into a book, and flatter myself your Lordship will do me the kindness and honour to revise them. I am sure there is no one will give me their opinion with better judgement or truer taste or a more real regard for my reputation and character. I trust your Lordship will excuse this freedom; but I am so much your own work that I cannot take any important step without your at least not disapproving of it.'

'*So much your own work*' is a phrase which, recalling the slavish style of early eighteenth-century dedications, grates most unpleasantly on the modern ear. Gray and Johnson, each in his own peculiar way, had declared their independence of the patron. By what casuistry Temple could bring himself to profess his servitude I cannot imagine. He was not, like the post-Johnsonian Boswell, cadging for favours; he had received them. And he was at full liberty to acknowledge them with dignity and self-respect.

II

VICAR OF ST. GLUVIAS, CORNWALL

IN the postscript of a very friendly letter written from the Admiralty on June 24th, 1777, Lady Lisburne expressed to Mrs. Temple her anxiety about Dr. Keppel's health:

'The Bishop of Exeter is better; but I fear we cannot flatter ourselves his disorder is as near got the better of as I wish most ardently it was, or would be ever.'

The countess proved a true prophet. The Bishop never succeeded in getting the better of his disorder, and died on December 27th, 1777, about a month after Temple had invited the Earl to revise his 'papers'. Through this misfortune, it appears, the newly installed Vicar of St. Gluvias was disappointed in his expectation of being promoted Archdeacon and of securing the comparatively lucrative living of Mylor. But he managed to get his 'papers' published under the title of *Moral and Historical Memoirs* in the spring of 1779. Three years earlier, just after he had completed their composition, Boswell had urged him to put his name to them;¹ 'for how can *you* get credit for what is anonymous?' Fearing, however, apparently that he might become a marked man in Cornwall if he brought out under his own name essays of so frankly liberal a cast, Temple refused to adopt this suggestion. But he ordered his publishers to send a copy of the 'Memoirs' to Burke, the high-priest of Liberalism, along, I presume, with a disclosure of the author's name; for this is what Boswell writes on May 3rd, 1779:

'Mr. Burke told me he had not received your book, yet it was certainly delivered to his old housekeeper. He asked me if it had merit. I said it had learning and elegance of expression, and a great deal about Liberty, which he would like, but I did not like. He said he would read it, which is a compliment he does not often pay to a book.'

¹ See his letter to Temple dated April 28th, 1776.

I have therefore ordered another copy to be sent to him with a card from me, to remind him.'

A subsequent gap in Boswell's correspondence with his friend deprives us of the pleasure of knowing what Burke thought of the *Memoirs*; but his own opinion of them finds frank and unequivocal expression in the conclusion of this same letter:

'As to your book now that I have read it over, I must candidly tell you that I think you should not puzzle yourself with political speculations more than I do. Neither of us is fit for that sort of mental labour. . . . Your letters to me and your cursory remarks on authours in the green book are, in my opinion, so much better than the college-like sentences that your book contains, that I have a fresh proof how very few even of those who have good parts are fit for the study, far less the practice, of government.'

Temple must have winced as he read 'college-like sentences'; but he was perhaps consoled by a subsequent letter, that of January 4th, 1780, in which his friend was pleased to admit:

'Yet your learning, and your *Memoirs* set you far above the common run of educated men.'

Boswell's earlier criticism is, however, largely true. These thirteen moral and political essays are certainly distinguished among the works of their class and time by a strong bias against political reaction and in favour of aristocratic or republican 'Liberty', the anti-royalist and 'ancient Roman' liberty of which Byron, Landor, and Peacock were so much enamoured. But, if the truth must be told, they are rendered desperately tedious and monotonous—at least the ten I myself have read—by their classical tags and analogies and by their French and Italian quotations, which alike in text and notes are paraded with a *naïveté* obviously inspired by pedantry.

Whether Lord Lisburne, who was a minor Minister in Lord North's Administration and therefore nominally at least a Tory, actually undertook the somewhat embarrassing task of revising the *Memoirs* is not on record. But the Earl

can hardly have been ignorant of his kinsman's Liberal and humanitarian sentiments; for in the autumn of 1777 Temple had been at some pains to bring them to his notice. On October 8th he writes:

'I have turned over Robertson's 'History of America'; but was a good deal disappointed after Abbé Raynal. His manner of writing is not near so interesting as that of the latter. He is often prolix and verbose; and one is somewhat scandalised to find the orthodox Doctor less the advocate of Justice and Humanity than the unbelieving Philosopher. He certainly does not express himself with half the indignation he ought against the excesses and enormities of the Spaniards; he even meanly attempts to palliate them. He greatly misrepresents the character of Las Casas; and his unbounded admiration of an enterprising spirit, however directed, is highly blamable. For I think it has always been the opinion of all good men that, when exerted in the pursuit of avarice or the lust of Power, it is far more culpable and pernicious in its effects than the utmost degrees of inactivity and sloth.'

About six weeks later, on November 25th, 1777, he expresses in concise and uncompromising language, language which Fox or Burke could hardly have bettered, the true Liberal doctrine on disaffection and rebellion, enunciating a view of the duties of government which, more than any other difference of opinion, separates irreconcilably the true Liberal from the true Conservative. He is speaking of 'the new general history of France by Velly and Vellaret in twenty volumes', which he has just been reading. And this is how he distinguishes between the true and the false doctrine of the origin of popular revolts:

'It [i.e. the history] is written in a very lively, entertaining manner, with curious digressions relative to customs, manners, literature; but has the defect of all French general histories, that of attributing tumults and insurrections rather to wantonness and faction than to oppressive

or improvident government, which I believe nine times in ten are the true causes. The contemporary writers give a very different account of the views, the sentiments, and actions of the leaders in such scenes.'

In the spring of 1780, wishing to gather from the big libraries material for a projected work on *Papal Rome*, Temple revisited Cambridge and London. But the expedition proved, to quote his friend's phrase, a 'jaunt of disappointment'. He could not study at the University because of his lack of access to modern books; he could not study in town because of the noise. He had 'two agreeable interviews' with Dr. Hurd, then Bishop of Lichfield; but they brought him no preferment. He could not meet Boswell, who was unable to get up to London this year; nor could he see Nicholls, who was also in Scotland, stopping with the Earl of Findlater. As 'the characterizer of Gray' he would have been welcome at No. 8 Bolt Court, where Johnson was labouring with the *Lives of the English Poets*; but he felt too nervous and out of sorts to call. And he left town three weeks too early to witness the Gordon Riots. Whether, when he dined at No. 22, The Poultry, Mr. Charles Dilly, his publisher, was able to report satisfactory sales of the *Memoirs*, we are not told. Probably these essays had not done so badly; for their author came up to town three years later for the express purpose of bringing out a second series of a political kind. But he failed to place the book. On this visit Temple dined at Wilkes's table (no great recommendation this to professional promotion!), was introduced to Edmund Burke, saw a good deal of Nicholls and of Boswell, and ventured more than once into Dr. Johnson's company. Having business to transact at Allerdean, he accompanied Boswell home as far as Berwick; but he declined an invitation to Auchinleck, of which his friend was now Laird; for he had seen him in his cups not only in London but in the border town.¹ In

¹ See Boswell's letter to Temple dated May 31st, 1794, and Temple's letter to Mrs. Temple written in June or July 1783.

October of this same year (1783) he made a trip to Boconnoc, a village about four miles north-east of Lostwithiel, and spent two or three days with Mason. Whether Mason was stopping with the local clergyman does not appear. About two years later Boswell brought out his *Tour to the Hebrides*. But the business of revising this second *Tour* was entrusted not to Temple, the amateur, but to Malone, the professional man of letters. Whether this preference caused a coolness between the two friends is uncertain; but it may well have aroused in Temple that jealousy of Malone of which we shall have subsequent evidence.

In what year and in what circumstances William Temple and Edward Jerningham became acquainted I cannot say. The first extant letter addressed by the parson to the poet is dated December 3rd, 1775, and refers to 'the design you mentioned at Mount Edgcumbe'. Jerningham of course was very intimate with the Edgcumbe family; and Temple was sufficiently *persona grata* to be visiting them at their Cornish seat in 1775 and in 1785. Whether, however, the two men got to know one another through the Edgcumbes or through Percival Stockdale or Norton Nicholls, two other common friends, is uncertain. What is certain is that they had many tastes in common and that Temple found Jerningham the most equable of his intimate friends. Both seem to have been modernists in religious matters, with an interest in divinity that was almost purely literary and humanistic; both were fond of music, foreign literature, and the fine arts; both were Whigs and pro-Americans; both were men of generous temper and of real feeling. On July 19th, 1784, Temple writes to Jerningham:

'Perhaps you may remember that, when you visited us at Mamhead, we had two sons. The eldest is now sixteen, and very desirous of going to India in the Company's service. As I have reason to believe you would assist me in any thing in your power, would you be so friendly as to mention my son to some of your great acquaintance?

I know your intimacy with Lord Camelford and with Lord and Lady Mount Edgcombe. The former must have great influence with his nephew [the younger Pitt, the new Prime Minister], and the latter with the Minister upon account of his boroughs. I have some kind of claim on Lord M. E.; as I am at this very time suffering a sort of persecution for having appointed a churchwarden in his Lordship's interests, agreeably to a former wish of your own and his Lordship's.'

Whether Jerningham could do anything in this matter does not appear; but on April 14th, 1785, Temple tells him:

'Finding the restraining Act made it madness to think of sending my son to India, and General Vaughan acquainting me there was a vacancy in his regiment, I bought him an ensigncy, and he is now in Ireland.'

Three years later, on the occasion of the death of this youth, he wrote a strange letter to Jerningham and received a still stranger one from Boswell. Here is the relevant part of his own letter, which bears date of May 5th, 1787:

'Some months ago I troubled you with a request from my wife on a very melancholy occasion to us, the loss of our eldest son, a very promising youth, at eighteen. She consoled herself with the hope that your pathetic muse would not have grudged her a few never-fading flowers to strew over the tomb of one she justly held so dear, and whose youth and beauty and parts were not unworthy of the elegiac strain. As I do not think you could refuse her, I trouble you with this only to say that I imagine my letter never came to your hands, and to put you in mind of one who always thinks of you with pleasure.'

How Jerningham responded to this rather naive appeal I cannot discover; certainly in his published poems no such monody is included. The young ensign was Boswell's godson; but, strangely enough, his godfather never saw him, though apparently he visited the Temples twice at Mamhead. *His* comment on Temple's loss, communicated in a letter

dated January 5th, 1787, is in its levity extraordinary even for Boswell. It runs as follows:

'I received this morning, before I got out of bed, your last very affecting letter. Business called me into the City; and I returned with intention to write to you. But Sir Joshua Reynolds, I find, has invited me to dine at his house at four with the Laureat, who is just come to town, and I cannot resist; so I can only assure you of my sincerest sympathy, and prayers, *ineffectual* as I may fear they are. I have regretted that I was not acquainted with my amiable godson. Perhaps I should *now* be thankful. Yet, when my mind is firm as it is at present, I *feel* a solid confidence in the divine wisdom and goodness with an humble 'waiting for the great teacher, Death'.

'You shall hear from me soon again . . . Be comforted, my old and most intimate friend, with pious hope, and be assured of the unceasing and warm regard of your truly affectionate

'James Boswell.'

Now Boswell, being what he was, good-natured but deficient in delicacy of feeling, could hardly be expected to imitate that example of decorum which Johnson had given him on April 4th, 1781:

'Mr Johnson knows that Sir Joshua Reynolds and the other gentlemen [of THE CLUB] will excuse his in-compliance with the call, when they are told that Mr. Thrale died this morning.'

But why need he have told his grief-stricken friend that he was going to the dinner? Simply because, as Temple declares in his diary for 1790, he had 'no command of his tongue'. His quotation in the same letter of his favourite tag from Pope's *Essay on Man* merely shows that, despite the caution given him six years earlier by his 'great oracle', he still trusted to *impressions*. The truth seems to be that Boswell, like Rousseau, one of his early lions, was a self-indulgent person who mistook sensationalism for sensibility,

liking pleasant sensations, such as he found in witnessing public executions, and disliking unpleasant ones, among which he seems to have included attendance at the bed-side of a dying relative or friend. Temple was a man of a very different type, a man of natural and not of diseased sensibility, an admirable son, an admirable husband, and an admirable father. He had, as we learn from one of his letters to Jerningham, been deprived of a mother's care when he was a little boy of but seven or eight, and he knew like his friend Gray how irreparable was such a loss. To relieve the necessities of his father he had made the heaviest sacrifices to filial piety. In the effusion of his paternal love he had not hesitated to make himself ridiculous. Such a man, then, was not likely to be deceived by Boswell's unctuous talk about 'humble waiting "for the great teacher, Death",' which he knew full well described a tedium that his would-be consoler was prepared to endure at the foot of the gallows only. He lived long enough to discover that the august spectacle to which Addison summoned his stepson, to see how a Christian can die, offered few attractions to a man whose strange misfortune it was to let mother, father, wife, and Dr. Johnson all expire, deprived of the comfort of his presence.

As Vicar of St. Gluvias, possessed of an income from combined private and professional sources amounting to over £500 a year (so Boswell reckons it in one of his letters), Temple passed the last nineteen years of his life. These years seem to have been a time of comparative comfort and contentment; though it is only fair to remember that Temple, like a later and more distinguished Cornish clergyman,¹ never received from his bishop a single real mark of distinction. That he would have welcomed the offer of a prebend or of an archdeaconry as a visible token of his success in the Church is scarcely open to doubt. Whether he can be said to have earned it is more disputable; for, so far as we know, he was no pulpit orator, and, interested though he was in the

¹ The Rev. Sabine Baring-Gould.

current Theist and Socinian controversies, he certainly made no contribution to polemical divinity. But, despite his lack of preferment, he must have been too busy to be very unhappy. His clerical duties and ministrations had to be performed. His correspondence, with friends, with brother parsons, and with men of business, had to be dispatched. Parcels of books sent down from London by Dilly or the Boswells had to be examined. His newspaper, his magazine,¹ and his reviews²—all regularly arriving under his patron's covers—had to be studied. Local visits of ceremony, too, though always deprecated, had constantly to be paid and received. All this took up time and allowed Temple scant leisure for brooding over his disappointments, the most constant of which appears to have been his failure to secure tolerable conversation. His unremitting search for this commodity proves, I think, that he was not really a gregarious man. Walking and riding were his regular daily exercises, never on any account to be pretermitted; drinking tea at his own or at a neighbour's house was the daily concession he made to the claims of social intercourse. Some dinners he had to give and others to accept; but he found both kinds a nuisance. Sitting long after a heavy meal was physically oppressive to him; and he took pleasure neither in the circulation of the bottle nor in the talk which it provoked. Such amusements as were accessible—a rubber of whist, a saunter in his garden, an appearance at the local Assembly, a visit to a friend to hear some competent pianist or vocalist, an attendance at the Assizes to meet the Sheriff and the Judges, or an excursion to Land's End or Fowey in search of the picturesque—he seems never to have disdained and sometimes even to have enjoyed. When he was quite at a loose end he would ride over to Killiow to see the Gwatkins or to Trewithen to call on Kit Hawkins. And when he felt disinclined either for paying visits or for reading books he could copy out, for Boswell's subsequent perusal, some new

¹ *The Gentleman's*.² *The Critical* and *Le Journal Encyclopédique*.

article into his 'Green Book', which seems to have been not a common-place book containing select passages from authors, such as Southey was fond of compiling, but a sort of critical review in which the 'characterizer of Gray' gave 'short, elegant characters of books'. Nor must Frank be forgotten as a factor in his father's happiness. During the last ten years of his life his sailor-son's profession must have contributed doubly to the entertainment of Temple, firstly by compelling him to take an interest in the work of the Fleet and in the society of its officers, and secondly by providing him with another regular correspondent, a correspondent, by the way, to whom we owe perhaps the earliest story of the First Transatlantic Flight, that made by 'Wynyard's Ghost'.

It may be suspected indeed that Temple had too many diversions, too many avocations. His diaries indeed prove abundantly that he frittered away his time in all sorts of ways and could never husband it in accordance with any prescribed system of study. As illustration I will take a single curious instance. In 1790 he was reading Barthélemy's *Voyage de jeune Anacharsis*, with a view probably to using some of the information thereby obtained as material for one of his 'Papers'. On August 11th of that year he announces that he has finished reading the book (two volumes). At the beginning of 1791 he starts reading it again with his daughter, and on March 18th makes the entry: 'Finished Anacharsis with Nancy.' What is one to make of such futility? I can only suppose that Temple pursued authorship with as many fits and starts, with as many interruptions and resurrections as his friend Boswell pursued virtue; and that, if he never suffered from insomnia of nights, it was not because he could claim that something had been done in the daytime. Certainly that tincture of the heroical in Boswell, which, amid the constant temptations to which he was exposed from wine and women, kept him in close attendance on Johnson while the great man lived, and in diligently

collecting, sorting, and revising the copy for his life when he was dead, found no counterpart in Temple, who, even if he could have discovered a subject made for his pen, would never have had the grit and concentration seriously to tackle it. His mental diffidence, combined with his lack of physical robustness, seems to have deprived him in middle age of all directive power, making him so soft, flabby, and irresolute that he could not submit to the discipline essential to the production of good work. In the two or three years which preceded his death he appears dimly to have recognized his infirmities and almost to have welcomed interruptions which in earlier days he would have bitterly resented. But in the seventeen-eighties he was content to attribute his literary sterility to his lack of access to libraries. An assiduous student of Gibbon, he had contemplated a work which, had it been executed with a competence worthy of its title, 'The Rise and Decline of Modern Rome: or Rome under the Papacy', would have entitled him to take an honourable place among British historians. But this tremendous task, which Von Ranke and Ludwig Pastor, assisted by a syndicate of scholars, could hardly have accomplished, was not successfully to be undertaken by Temple single-handed, and remained unfinished at his death. As the fragment seems to have disappeared, we shall never know the scale on which the author had planned his work or how much of it was actually written. The idea, however, had served its purpose. It had made something for him to turn to, something to feed his dream of fame, something to set over against the *Johnsoniad*. In his letters to Edward Jerningham he seems to make two references to the book. On July 19th, 1784, he writes:

'The treatise you wished to see completed goes on very slowly; and, unless I can contrive to pass a whole winter in town, I despair of its further progress.'

Nine months later, in a letter dated April 14th, 1785, he reverts to the topic and remarks:

'Are not our islanders in general very incurious about

foreign literature? Our own party squabbles and domestic history seem to engross us intirely. Robertson was the first of our writers who crossed the Mediterranean and turned our attention to the Continent. Gibbon has shown that it is worth while to know something of *later* Rome; but it will be a bold attempt to tread in his steps. As to the work you encourage me to, it will be in vain to think of proceeding in it, till I can fix myself for two or three winters near the Museum.'

Temple, in fact, whether he was reading or whether he was writing, was always preoccupied with the idea of literary composition and literary fame. It is therefore difficult to gather from his letters and diaries what sort of a clergyman he actually made: hints are all that we are afforded. This much however is certain that at Penryn, as at Mamhead, he nourished a grievance against his chief parishioner. Between the Vicar of St. Gluvias and the Member of Parliament for Penryn, personal as well as political differences seem to have arisen. Sir Francis Bassett was a wealthy mine-owner who in 1779, when the combined French and Spanish fleet was threatening Plymouth, marched into the town with a large body of the miners' militia, and with their aid threw up additional earthwork batteries for the defence of the port. For these services he was created a baronet.¹ Temple, however, seems to have regarded the young Cornish M.P. as more pushing than patriotic. Moreover, being a supporter of the county freeholders, he disliked Sir Francis as typifying the domination of the borough voters, who practically monopolized the Parliamentary representation of the Duchy. Writing then on the subject of Parliamentary Reform to the Rev. Christopher Wyvill, the Chairman of the Yorkshire Association for promoting that object, he makes the following disparaging reference to Bassett in a letter dated January 9th, 1783:

¹ In 1796 Pitt made him Baron de Dunstanville of Tehidy, and in 1797 Baron Basset of Stratton.

‘Of Penryn, which is in my parish, and indeed of all the boroughs here, you must entertain no hopes. It is entirely in the hands of Sir Francis Bassett, a forward, presuming young man, and of too interested and narrow a mind to wish for improvement of any kind.’¹

Seemingly, however, the two men were not intimate enough with one another to quarrel; and nine years later, when, in the reaction brought about by the French Revolution, Temple favoured the indefinite postponement of such an ‘improvement’ as Parliamentary Reform, he and Sir Francis were associated in introducing that less dangerous ‘innovation’ the Cornwall Library and Literary Society.

Temple, indeed, was too tenacious of his own dignity, too insistent on the respect due to the cloth,² too little regardful of the apostolic injunction to make himself ‘all things to all men’, to figure either in Devonshire or in Cornwall as the companionable country parson whom Sydney Smith showed himself first in Yorkshire and then in Somerset in his thirty years’ exile from London. He seems punctually to have performed his ‘parish duty’; but the spirit in which he interpreted his clerical function is not easily defined. He did it no discredit, which could hardly be said of politicians such as Churchill, Wyvill, and Horne Took; but whether he felt any real vocation to the Church may be doubted. Many parsons of his time, Mason, Lysons, Stockdale, Whitaker, Polwhele, were authors first and foremost and Christian Ministers in a secondary degree only; but they would hardly have confessed as much. Whereas Temple openly exalted his literary avocations above his pastoral office and appears to have regarded his flock from the point of view of a justice of the peace rather than from that of a parish priest. He was fond enough of airing liberal notions (but it is only fair to him to say never democratic opinions) for the

¹ Wyvill’s *Political Papers*, vol. iv, pp. 265–71.

² In the fifth volume of his *History of Cornwall* Polwhele includes (in a note), a letter on the Cornwall Library, in which Temple says: ‘It is an old and a just observation that disrespect to the Clergy is not far from disrespect for Religion.’

benefit of his noble patron Lord Lisburne; but, judged by one or two expressions that he lets fall, he can hardly be said to have considered very humanely his humbler parishioners, whether in Devonshire or in Cornwall. In a letter to Lord Lisburne, written when he was at Mamhead and previously drawn on, he denounces a male of his flock as having 'been brought up to nothing but idleness' and a female as 'a thief, a drunkard, and a whore'; while what he thought about the 'shop-keepers, handicrafts, and labourers' of the district we have already seen. The 'labourers' of Penryn he appears to have found particularly trying. From 1787 to 1791 he was having certain improvements and alterations carried out in the house and in the grounds; and he makes several impatient entries in his diary about the slowness with which the work was being executed. On October 27th, 1787, he remarks:

'Almost regret I ever thought of building a study. The workmen quite weary out one's patience; I know not when it will be finished.'

About a year later he is having a pump-house rebuilt, some ground levelled near the house, and some plastering done inside the house. And the men are making so leisurely a job of the business as to provoke him to indulge in a hasty generalization and to take precautions which waste his time. On September 18th, he declares:

'One has always reason to distrust work-people', and in a summary of his doings from November 5th to the 20th all he can remember is:

'Trifling away the mornings in planting and pruning and in overlooking the labourers employed about the walk.'

Nor, as is shown by another entry, too long for quotation, were the contractors, in Temple's opinion, any honester than the workmen. Whatever agreement he had with them, he believed that they cheated him. All this is rather sweeping, and reminds one of nothing so much as Landor's diatribes against his Llanthony tenants and labourers.

What relations the Vicar of St. Gluvias had with the Dissenters and Methodists of his parish we have no opportunity of judging. But two entries in his diary concerning these lost sheep have a decided tincture of illiberality. On December 17th, 1790, he declares that two works in polemical divinity which he has just read, *Historical Memoirs of Religious Dissension* (John Murray, 1790), and *The Dissenters weighed in their own scales*, may be said to 'give a just idea of the principles and their effects of those Sectaries'. On Saturday, May 21st, 1791, he announces that he has written a sermon that morning 'against Religious Hypocrisy: induced to this by one of the Methodistical Saints being detected in stealing from his master'. Now Temple, originally a Presbyterian living at Berwick, was himself of course a converted Dissenter, and was therefore bound to make it a point of honour to be more zealous for the faith than old believers. As an Anglican clergyman, too, he must have witnessed with a certain dismay the considerable spread of Methodism in Cornwall and the continuous visits made by its founder to the Duchy. (The first sermon which John Wesley preached in Cornwall was delivered at St. Ives on August 30th, 1743, and the last at Launceston on August 28th, 1789.) Making all allowance however for this, I seem to detect a needlessly harsh and bitter tone in the Vicar's allusions to Dissenters and Methodists. After all, had not the reverend gentleman dined twice in London in the society of Dr. Mayo, Independent Minister? Had he not paid over to his wife's sister £600 'in the presence of The Revd. Mr. James Acheson, Minister of the Low Meeting House', a Presbyterian chapel of which his own father and grandfather had both been trustees? And had he lived in Cornwall for fourteen years without having heard John Wesley preach or without at least having seen something of the great work he had done there? Fortunately his own diocesan, Dr. John Ross, who had succeeded Dr. Frederick Keppel as Bishop of Exeter in 1778, was a man of a milder and more charitable

temper and had thought it no derogation from his office to invite the great evangelist to dine with him at the Palace.¹ His great friend, too, Sir Christopher Hawkins, was another Cornish magnate who can hardly have been an enemy to the Methodists; for towards the end of his life he gave them £100 as a contribution towards the expense of repairing their chapel at St. Ives.

I now come to the last phase of Temple's career, a phase marked by keen anxiety and heavy loss. In 1788 and 1789, when he was nearing fifty, he was worried about starting in life his 'nephew' and 'niece' (not the children of Boswell's youthful companion, Bob, but those of Mrs. Forster, Mrs. Temple's sister), and was seeking, fruitlessly it seems, to get the one admitted into Christ's Hospital and the other engaged as companion or governess. In 1790, when he again revisited London, accompanied by his eldest daughter Nancy, a girl of nearly eighteen, he found his host, Boswell, a widower since July of the previous year, doubly incapacitated from entertaining him, first by a severe attack of hypochondria and secondly by the necessity of accompanying his patron, Lord Lonsdale, to Carlisle, of which city the Earl had made him Recorder.² Writing from Carlisle on June 21st, 1790, to convey his apologies to his friend, Boswell describes his quarrel with the Earl, his Lordship's denial of any intention of bringing him into Parliament, and his own consequent resignation of the Recordership. Boswell, however, had not entirely neglected the Temples. He had accompanied them to Sir Joshua Reynolds's studio

¹ *The Journal of the Rev. John Wesley, A.M.* (Entry for August 18th, 1782).

² Whether Temple and Boswell met in the seven years' interval that elapsed between June 9th, 1783, when they dined together at Blackadder in Scotland, and May 14th, 1790, when the former became the latter's guest at Queen Anne Street, London, it is impossible to say. In the account of Temple's life which the late Mr. W. P. Courtney contributed to the *Dictionary of National Biography*, Boswell, accompanied by his two elder daughters, Veronica and Euphemia, is declared to have been a guest at St. Gluvias in September 1783. But, in view of the great distance between Auchinleck and Penryn and of the tender ages of the Misses Boswell at this time, this declaration seems unwarranted. At any rate I can find no authority for it.

in Leicester Fields and to George Romney's in Holly Bush Hill, Hampstead; and he had taken them to hear the trial of Warren Hastings at Westminster Hall, where they had the privilege of listening to speeches made by three such orators as Fox, Windham, and Burke. Temple, however, had heartily disliked Boswell's *ménage* at Queen Anne Street; while Nancy Temple had not taken at all kindly to Miss (Veronica) Boswell. It was on the return home to Cornwall from this too intimate visit that the Vicar of St. Gluvias came across the young parson of noble descent and inextinguishable self-complacency who was to cause him so much uneasiness for the residue of his days. Writing to his mother at Canterbury on June 26th, 1790, the Rev. Charles Powlett, junior, says that he met at the White Hart Inn, Salisbury, and travelled in the mail-coach from Salisbury to Exeter, and from Exeter to Liskeard

‘with a Rev. Mr. Temple, and his daughter, the most beautiful and accomplished girl I ever saw.’

At Liskeard, where the two clergymen parted company, Temple invited young Powlett to visit him at St. Gluvias, which visit was duly paid on June 29th. On July 1st ‘the little aristocrat’, writing from Truro, made a formal proposal of marriage to Miss Temple, which she seems to have accepted. Her father and mother, however, while liking the young man personally, were disposed to think that his lack of income and obvious dependence on his relations rendered him rather ineligible as a son-in-law, despite the fact that he was grandson to a duke. Unfortunately, however, Temple, who paid scant regard to the claims of domestic privacy when he was unburdening his soul to Boswell, must needs disclose the whole circumstances of the case to that gentleman, who, already odious to Mrs. Temple, must now have seemed an interloper to Nancy Temple and Charles Powlett. The advice he gave on April 2nd, 1791, ‘let us have a certainty of £500 or even £400 a year’, was sound enough; but need it have been fetched all the way from London?

But the main trouble of these latter years was caused by the long struggle in which Temple had, or rather chose, to engage to save his sailor son from that dismal fate to which many a naval officer of Smollett's acquaintance had been condemned—that of remaining a midshipman at the mature age of forty-five or fifty. Frank Temple had returned from Newfoundland in November 1789; and had his father taken the bold and obvious course of bearding his old fellow-student, Henry Dundas, at the Admiralty when he was in London in May 1790, the midshipman might have been gazetted lieutenant before the King's birthday. But Temple, though sometimes regarded by Gray as 'precipitate' and by Boswell as 'violent' in his correspondence,¹ seems rarely to have been precipitate or violent in action. A timid man, he exploded in letters and shirked a straight talk. So in this case he proceeded obliquely instead of directly and, sooner than see the principal, Henry Dundas, tried to 'wangle' the business by setting all sorts of persons to work who might be supposed to have some sort of 'pull' with the Secretary to the Admiralty. On November 29th, 1790, misconceiving the position of his friend, who had some social but no political influence, he wrote to Edward Jerningham as follows:

'So Mr. Pitt has triumphed at last, and we are to have no war. This will disappoint the Navy people, etc. We have a son there, about whom my wife is naturally very anxious. He was three years at the Royal Academy at Portsmouth, three years in the *Thisbe* at Nova Scotia, and is just returned in the *Salisbury* from Newfoundland. It seems a pretty general promotion of midshipmen is to take place. Could you do us the favour to mention our son Francis to some of your friends; that we may have the satisfaction of seeing him a lieutenant? Promotion in the Navy is hardly obtainable in time of peace; and, if he

¹ See Gray's letter to Norton Nicholls dated February 5th, 1768, and Boswell's letter to Temple dated May 31st, 1794.

miss the present opportunity, there is little probability that another may present itself, at least in our time. Having solicited several of our friends, Lady Lisburne, Mr. Dundas, etc., etc., my wife also reckoned on your good wishes.'

He then had resort to Boswell, who on February 7th, 1791, told him that Miss Palmer, Sir Joshua Reynolds's eldest niece, had 'applied to Lord Eliot, but in vain', and that [Christopher] Hawkins had declared that he would not write to Mr. Pitt on the subject 'were his own brother in the case'. This news can hardly have surprised Temple, who would readily understand that Edward James Eliot, having received seven years earlier a peerage as his reward for borough-mongering in Cornwall, was by no means desirous of pressing any fresh claims on the Government, while Christopher Hawkins, who was within a month or two of being made a baronet in recognition of similar services rendered in the Duchy, was at this time particularly anxious not to be *too* troublesome to the Prime Minister. Six months later, on August 22nd, 1791, Boswell was able to report some progress. He had seen Dundas, who had 'expressed himself cordially' towards Frank, and he had written him from the circuit enclosing Temple's last letter to himself. Two more years, however, passed by, and the Secretary's benevolence never manifested itself as beneficence. It was not indeed until Temple plucked up courage enough to urge his suit on Dundas in a personal interview that he won it. Writing just before Christmas of 1793 he was at last in a position to inform Edward Jerningham that his object had been secured:

'I was in town for about a month in September and October, and left my name at your door. The purpose of my journey was to forward my son's promotion in the Navy; which I happily effected by means of early intimacy with Mr. Dundas, now so great a man. He, Boswell and I studied together at Edinburgh, previous to my going to Cambridge.'

The description of the prosecution of the suit has carried me two years in advance of the main narrative, which I now continue. In May 1791 Temple received a copy of his friend's *magnum opus*, *The Life of Samuel Johnson, LL.D.*, duly inscribed, no doubt; and in April and August of the same year he was given particulars of the matrimonial designs of the now famous author. In September he and his wife and daughter were delighted to have Edward Jerningham as their guest, to listen to the songs he sang to the accompaniment of his harp, and to hear his stories of the tragic widow, Mrs. Damer, the sculptor whom the enthusiastic vicar hailed as 'the Goddess of Statuary . . . the most extraordinary genius of modern times'. In 1792, with a view, partly to the satisfaction of his own peculiar needs, partly to the more general diffusion of literature among his neighbours, Temple was largely instrumental in founding at Truro 'The Cornwall Library and Literary Society', the first public library established in the county. This business must have proved a welcome distraction to him; for, judged by a letter which he wrote to Jerningham on March 29th, he was very gloomy at the time:

'I need not say what satisfaction a letter from you now and then would afford me. My situation here is very solitary and very dispiriting. There is literally no conversation; and I must find all my amusements in my family and among my books.'

In September of this same year Boswell visited St. Gluvias accompanied by his two elder daughters Veronica and Euphemia, aged nineteen and eighteen respectively. Temple doubtless found enjoyment in welcoming his most intimate friend under his roof once more; but it may be suspected that neither Mrs. nor Miss Temple derived much satisfaction from the society of the Boswells. Writing to Charles Powlett on September 14th, 1796, just a month after her father's death, Nancy frankly confesses:

‘My excellent and beloved mother disliked Boswell, and the openness of her nature betrayed her.’¹

She herself laughed at the father and found the younger daughter as little to her taste as the elder. In a letter written to her intimate friend, Miss Padgy Peters, on September 8th, 1792, in a moment snatched from the business of entertaining the two girls, she admits that she is ‘disgusted with the Miss Boswells’ and ridicules ‘Euphemia’s silly terrors’. Her comment on ‘the great man’ runs as follows:

‘Mr. Boswell is a curious Genius too. He is perpetually falling in love, as he calls it; and then he can do nothing but talk of the Angelic Creature. In a man of more than 50 such behaviour is folly.’¹

Boswell was far too experienced a man of the world not to realize the rarefied atmosphere in which he was living during this visit. He seems not to have inflicted too much of his company on Mrs. and Miss Temple; as may be gathered from an inscription he wrote on the fly-leaf of the first of the two volumes of his *Life of Johnson* which he presented to the Cornwall Library:

‘Presented by the Authour to the Library of Cornwall in grateful remembrance of the hospitality which he experienced in that county in the year 1792, when on a visit to his friend the Rev. Mr. Temple, Vicar of St. Gluvias.
James Boswell.’²

In the early weeks of 1793 Temple seems to have been a good deal exercised by the revolutionary movement in France and its repercussions in England. Some of the Cornish clergy were waxing a great deal too ‘democratical’ to please him.³ He therefore resolved to take a leaf out of his friend Boswell’s book and to come forth as a public letter-writer. With the double object then of advertising

¹ I must caution the reader that these quotations are made not from the actual letters, which seem to have perished, but from memoranda of them.

² See Polwhele’s *History of Cornwall*, end of vol. v.

³ See Boswell’s letter to Temple dated May 31st, 1794.

The Cornwall Library and Literary Society and of rebuking 'enviers and maligners of our church and state', he wrote, had printed and circulated among his professional brethren and 'the principal Gentry', 265 copies of an alleged 'pamphlet' which he variously entitled 'Letter to the Clergy respecting the County Library and Observations on Popular Discontents and on Equality addressed to Theorists, Republicans and Levellers'. This letter, which I suppose is to be identified with the one already referred to which Polwhele includes in the fifth volume of his *History of Cornwall*, can hardly be said to do Temple much credit considered as a polemic. It is a tirade of the forcible feeble kind, which eschews argument, is confused in thought, and rambles on from topic to topic in the most distracting fashion. The only point indeed that its author makes clear is that he is now opposed to any reform of the Constitution.¹ Temple, however, appears to have been rather proud of this effusion and seemingly made it the basis of a regular anti-Jacobinical treatise which he tried—unsuccessfully—to persuade Dilly to publish in the following year.² From one of his correspondents—Mr. T. Clarke—his letter provoked a dryly amusing reply, some extracts from which I quote as evidence of Temple's former political opinions and of the quaint rumours which were circulating at the time:

'I think that you have said all that can be said upon the Subject of Levelling &c. &c. And yet I think I remember you a flaming Republican once or something like one. I wish you had sent me a Cargo of your Pamphlets: I could have circulated them about. . . . I think that we are very far from being in a state of Security. Payne, with all his mischief, is certainly an extraordinary Man, and may be dreaded but not despised. There certainly was a plot formed to seize the Tower &c. I was in town at the very time. Had they got it, I don't know what might

¹ 'In the present state of things any attempt at innovation even by improvement would be injudicious, impolitic and hazardous.'

² See Boswell's letter to Temple already referred to.

have been the consequences. . . . If I never grow more tired of Matrimony than I am at present, I'm not in a very bad way. The fear is that she will grow tired of me. She will have the worst of it.

Feb^y. 9 '93.

P.S.

See at the very end of La Bruyere (the first book in the World) what he says upon the inequality of Conditions.

"*it is wrong only when Men push it too far*".'

Towards the end of February 1793, Temple received an epistle in which his 'most affectionate' friend informed him that he was 'within a few hours of setting out for Auchinleck' in order to assist in 'the choice of a minister to a worthy parish' and that he was sending him two poems of Crabbe's, *The Village* and *The Library*, the latter 'as suited to your present zeal'. He was still as assiduous as ever in keeping up his correspondence; for during January he wrote letters to Nicholls, Jerningham, Claxton, Clarke, the Rev. Mr. Baron, the Rev. John Whitaker, Sir Christopher Hawkins, David Boswell, and James Boswell. On March 14th he lost his wife, who died at the comparatively early age of forty-six from some obscure gastric complaint which seems to have been improperly treated by her apothecary Mr. Street and her physician Dr. Gould. In the early summer, if I interpret rightly a very guarded letter written to him by his friend on June 21st, he appears to have been very strongly attracted to some one whom he may have thought of making the second Mrs. Temple. So strong an impression did Temple's avowal of his passion make on Boswell that the latter wrote:

'If you find the complaint *obstinate*, remove from St. Gluvias for a time, and dissipate yourself in some place where you can have variety. But I *conjure* you to send me a *promise* that you will not *act* without my consent.'

The reader will observe that in this letter (as in a later one dated October 14th) Boswell dismisses his friend's passion as a morbid attack from which he hopes the patient will in

time recover. This seems to suggest that Temple's *oggetto*, as Nicholls would have called her, was far from being a *proper object*. If then her impropriety consisted in her inferiority to Temple in birth, breeding, and education, I am probably justified in identifying her with a young woman called Susan who figures prominently in Nancy Temple's journals for 1793 and 1794. For over five months, from soon after Mrs. Temple's death till August 30th, 1793, Susan acted as housekeeper at the Vicarage, 'keeping the keys and regulating almost the whole economy of the family'. At the end of this period the vicar's daughter took over the household management, and Susan 'therefore was obliged to return home'. Her dismissal was a precautionary measure, rendered necessary by the open readiness of the disconsolate widower to be consoled; as an extract from Nancy Temple's journal for August 30th will show:

'Though I believe of all Men in the World my Father is the most unlikely to do anything that would lower him either in his own opinion or in that of the World, yet it appeared to be dangerous, very dangerous, to throw a young woman in his way who undoubtedly has attraction and every day grows more familiar. . . . Especially as, with pain and anguish of soul I write, I could plainly perceive his affection for me decrease and that he received Susan's attentions with infinitely more complacency and satisfaction than he did mine. . . . My Father disregarded all my entreaties, objections, and representations. Not even my telling him that it was reported in Penryn he would marry Susan had any effect.'

Temple was 'excessively angry' at the dismissal of his favourite; though some six weeks later (on October 14th) he 'condescended to assure' Nancy that 'he never did regard Susan in any improper manner'. But the misunderstanding between father and daughter, complicated as it was by Temple's jealousy of Charles Powlett, by Mrs. Powlett's jealousy of Nancy Temple, by Octavius Temple's impudent

behaviour to his sister, and by the opposition made to his nephew's engagement by the wealthy Rev. Charles Powlett senior, was not easily cleared up. Into the details of the business it is quite impossible for me to enter; but one circumstance is worth noting, which is that on January 23rd, 1794, Temple, in full accordance with his preference for taking a circuitous to a direct course, 'commissioned' Nancy's friend Miss Coode to inform her that 'he never would consent to her marriage with Mr. Powlett'. Certainly the alternations between harshness and coldness to which the Vicar treated his daughter between September, 1793, and August, 1794, might have broken the spirit of a less resolute girl. But Nancy Temple had inherited her mother's stubborn will. Moreover, during the late summer and autumn of 1793 she was consoled by the presence of her lover; for Charles Powlett and his mother were guests at the vicarage from August 16th to October 12th, and then took lodgings at Penryn, where they remained till the end of the year. In 1794, however, distracted by the double resolution she had taken, never to give up Charles Powlett and never to marry him without her father's consent, Nancy was almost in despair. On April 9th, disappointed in an effort to get Susan again employed in the house, Temple told his daughter that, if she married Mr. Powlett, he would never see her again and would not give her a shilling; while on June 9th he absolutely forbade her writing to him, a command which Nancy felt bound to disobey, more especially as on July 28th she received news that the unfortunate young man had lost his mother. But her troubles were now nearing their end. His mother's death allowed his uncle and aunt to adopt a more kindly attitude towards Charles Powlett;¹ and in her journal for 1794 Nancy Temple was able to make the following entry:

'About the middle of the month Mr. Nicholls, one of my

¹ Lieutenant Powlett, like so many naval officers, had married a woman of no family.

Father's most particular Friends, arrived here. His penetration soon enabled him to discover that my mind was a prey to melancholy and anxiety; and he endeavoured with the utmost delicacy and kindness to prevail upon me to confide to him the cause of my distress. I saw he could feel for others and made no scruple to explain to him my situation. He considered me with pity and generously undertook to mediate between me and my Father and to try what he could do to effect a reconciliation and to induce him to look on Mr. Powlett in a more favourable light. Which he has succeeded in by entreaty, persuasion and reasoning. My Father has now promised that he will not oppose my union with Mr. Powlett, provided I agree I will not marry till Mr. P. has four hundred a year. And this I have consented to. Every thing now goes on smoothly and peaceably. My Father appears to have restored to me the same portion of his affection I once enjoyed before and ever valued; the name of that infamous Woman is almost forgotten; and I think I am happy.'

In this drama of domestic dissension Boswell played a less happy part. But this was only natural; he was not on the spot. He was a correspondent expected to make comments on confidences which ought never to have been revealed to him; and a man placed in such an invidious situation is bound sooner or later to take a *faux pas*. So it happened to Boswell. As a general rule his reply to Temple's revelations was sympathetic but non-committal. In this particular case, however, it proved less guarded and indeed maladroit:¹

'I congratulate you on the removal of your troublesome guests. What a shocking thing was it to treat poor Octavius as they did. You see when *love* is the case, *other* affections give way in a daughter.'

Merely maladroit such expressions may have been; but, if they ever reached the ears of Nancy Temple, who can be

¹ See Boswell's letter to Temple dated October 14th, 1793.

surprised if they sounded malicious! The last four years of her life in Cornwall must indeed have been a time in which she suffered great unhappiness. Her mother's death, her protracted and precarious engagement, her father's estrangement from her and his obvious physical break-up must have combined, as her journals sufficiently demonstrate, to lacerate her spirit. In 1801 she writes to Miss Peters:

'I have little . . . desire to visit Cornwall again. The sight of St. Gluvias would too forcibly bring to my remembrance the most painful scenes of my life and give a shock to my feelings which I should dread to encounter.'

These four years may well have proved even more bitter to Temple himself; for they were the years in which he not only lost his wife and alienated his daughter, but made the fatal discovery, as his diaries for 1793 and 1796 only too clearly prove, that his desire to produce a great literary work increased in proportion as he realized his total incapacity for sustained labour. To renounce the competition for fame with such near neighbours and comparatively local celebrities as Polwhele, Whitaker, Gregor, Basset, and Giddy must have given him a twinge. But, having fairly launched his eldest (surviving) son Francis on a successful naval career by securing his promotion from midshipman to lieutenant, Temple seems about this time to have concentrated his endeavours on planning an equally promising clerical career for his third son, John James, fully convinced as he was that his second son Robert was too stupid to come to any good. In September, 1793, therefore, emulating his friend's example in the case of his eldest son Sandy, he took John to Eton. Boswell appears to have been very kind to John and to have invited him to spend the Christmas vacation of 1793 with his own family. So we gather from a letter, previously drawn upon, which Temple wrote to Jerningham on December 22nd, 1793:

'A friend of mine in town has written highly to me of

your 'Siege of Berwick'. I will not now relinquish my prescribed claim of a copy 'From the Author'. My son from Eton is now passing the Christmas holydays at Mr. Boswell's, No. 27, Great Portland Street. If you will send it to him, he will forward it to me in covers. Will you do me the kindness to notice him a little? He is sixteen, and in the fifth form, a very well-disposed, a very studious, and a very ingenious boy.'

As a matter of fact John Temple was not sixteen at this time but well over seventeen, having been born on October 27th, 1776. He was indeed far too old and big a boy to be bullied at Eton as young James Boswell had been bullied at Westminster; but at first he was unhappy there, presumably because he had suffered a strange transplantation at the hobbledehoy age. In about a month's time he became 'much better reconciled'; while eventually he grew to like Eton so much that in the autumn of 1795 he was still there, though he was over nineteen. Consulted on the point whether the time had not come for sending him to Oxford Norton Nicholls dryly remarked:¹

'Surely after the age of nineteen (above a fourth part of our existence) we were not intended only to learn words, to exercise the dominion of an upper boy over lower ones, to row a boat, and to play at cricket!'

and was urgent for the youth's prompt dispatch to Christ Church. John Whitaker, the historian of Manchester, another authority appealed to, gave it as his opinion that John, being Devonshire born, should be sent to Corpus, a Devonshire college, which had 'Livings equally with Fellowships'. But all this admirable advice was wasted on the fond foolish father, who allowed his son to remain at Eton until the end of the summer term of 1796. That John Temple was a cool sort of customer appears, I think, from his extravagance in running up a tailor's bill for £75 between 1794 and 1796 and from the cheerful effrontery

¹ In a letter dated December 16th, 1795.

which he displays in an otherwise neglible letter written to Nancy Temple on finally taking leave of Eton. But, troublesome as he was to his sister and burdensome to his father, who complains in his diary for 1796 that he was 'obstinate and conceited', John James was probably popular enough with persons of his own age and disposition. He seems at any rate to have managed to ingratiate himself with jovial James Boswell and his sons and daughters; for it was he who, after acknowledging the kindness which Miss Veronica and Miss Euphemia had shown him, communicated to his father on April 8th, 1795, the ominous intelligence that 'a few nights ago Mr. Boswell returned from the Literary Club quite weak and languid'. From this attack Boswell made a partial and apparently too quick recovery; but he soon had a relapse. He could keep no food on his stomach; he suffered from fever, severe shivering and violent headache; and a swelling in his bladder mortified. His illness lasted five weeks; and at two o'clock in the morning of May 19th, 1795, he expired at the age of fifty-five. So terminated the most intimate and the most romantic friendship that has ever subsisted between two English men of letters. The parting indeed was invested with a peculiar pathos; for it was an occasion on which neither friend could write to the other with his own hand. It must, however, have been a comfort to Temple to know that he was not unrepresented at Boswell's death-bed and that the son on whom his hopes were fixed stood his proxy there.

From August 15th to October 8th, 1794, Nicholls had been a welcome guest at St. Gluvias. On his departure he had begged his host to pay him a return visit at Suffolk, and accordingly Temple and his elder daughter spent three months at Blundeston House in the summer and early autumn of 1795. In addition to Robert Potter, Vicar of Lowestoft and translator of the Greek tragedians, they saw many lords and ladies and generals and captains; for Nicholls had a liking for aristocratic and military society.

And, if Temple could not bring himself actually to enjoy it, he probably found a pleasure in witnessing his daughter's enjoyment, in visiting some of the neighbouring country houses, and in gazing on and listening to that 'angelic being',¹ Mrs. Anderson.² The only literary composition he produced during this excursion was a letter vindicatory of Boswell's character which he seems to have written about three weeks after his arrival at Blundeston and published anonymously in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for August 1795. Here it is, with all its parade of italics and its jealous mention of Johnson, Courtenay, and Malone:

'July 29th.

'Mr. Urban,

'It is not a little astonishing to me that, of a character so well known *generally* as that of the late Mr. Boswell, there should be various opinions and contradictory accounts. That in *all* these there should be some error is not so surprising. Even Mr. Malone, if the strictures in your Magazine, imputed to, were written by, him, appears to be a better reader of the *black letter* than of human nature, when he says that Mr. Boswell "had a considerable share of melancholy in his own temperature". He had *not*, previous to his acquaintance with Johnson. I knew him many years before that virtuous attachment, so eminently advantageous to the public, was formed, and long before he associated with Malone and Courtenay. Far too much has been said on what are called his "failings", a *gentle* term applied by some of his *friends* to certain of his *virtues*; for you must know, Mr. Urban, that several of Mr. Boswell's friends are *very prudent* people, who, instead of the *vanity* and the *candour* of dear Boswell, possess no inconsiderable share of *arrogance* and *hypocrisy*, and did all they could to instil certain *wise* and *wordly*³ *maxims* into Jemmy's heart, which, in complais-

¹ Compare Boswell's expression quoted on Page liii.

² For an account of this lady see the introduction to the 5th diary.

³ Printer's error for 'worldly'.

ance to them, he pretended to admire, but could never adopt. At the same time, he gave them credit for their good intentions and great sapience.—“Something too much of this.”

‘It shall be my endeavour, Mr. Urban, to give a faithful account of the life of our deceased friend; and, at the same time, to do justice to his admirers and to his enemies; for “Shame to mankind, Philander had his foes!” Young.

‘Yours &c.

‘Biographicus.’

This promise, made to the reading public, to write a life of Boswell, Temple was not spared long enough to fulfil. And another promise, made to Nicholls, to accompany him on a Continental tour, he was prevented from keeping by the same cause. His old friend, Richard Gwatkin, had urged him to take this holiday in East Anglia out of consideration for his health; but he seems to have returned from it refreshed probably in spirit but not in body. In Suffolk he had complained that he was never left to himself. Whether he would have been justified in making the same complaint in Cornwall during the last months of his life it is not quite easy to say. Ensconced in his library, he certainly seems to have got through, or at least begun, a considerable course of miscellaneous reading during 1796; but he was rarely free from visitors. He probably liked to have young people about him; for, according to his diary for this year, John, Frederick, Anne, and Laura each brought his or her particular friends to the vicarage, and of course his father’s darling, the twelve-year-old Octavius, was allowed to bring his. The result was not exactly harmony: according to the Vicar his children were too prone to quarrelling to be called a happy family. But Temple had been gradually failing in health. His seat in the saddle was getting less firm. In May, 1794, he had had a bad fall from his horse. In April, 1795, at the very time of Boswell’s fatal illness, he had another fall, severely

injuring his right shoulder and right hand.¹ On July 27th, 1795, while riding from Blundeston to Yarmouth, he was thrown twice and hurt his face and lip so much that he had to be bled; and the bleeding brought on one of those attacks of shivering which had been frequent with him, much to his apothecary's and his elder daughter's disquietude, at the beginning of November, 1794.² But, though he complains in his diary for 1796 of suffering from colds, headaches, drowsiness in the day-time and sleeplessness at night, he can hardly have been ignorant that the malady which was weakening him was some kind of gastric trouble. The fact that his 'bowells were out of order' had made him postpone his departure from Blundeston in 1795 from October 5th to October 7th. The course of his illness it is impossible to trace in detail; but on July 5th, 1796, he again makes the entry 'disordered in my bowells'. On the 13th he notes that he 'slept very ill last night'. On the 17th he returned from a walk 'a little fatigued'. On the 24th, the entry runs:

'Frightful dreams to-night owing, I suppose, to tasting a very small slice of tongue, contrary to my usual custom of never touching any thing after tea.'

On Friday, August 5th, the entry is confined to six words: 'At Church. Ill in my bowells.' On Saturday the 13th he was dead, the victim probably of the same sort of stomachic disorder as that which carried off Mrs. Temple in March, 1793, and attacked Nancy Temple six months later. A monument was erected in St. Gluvias churchyard to the memory of their parents by 'the seven remaining children'; and on this monument Temple's second name is recorded as 'Johnston'.³

The Temples had eleven children in all. Three seem to have died in infancy; while about two others, Laura and

¹ My authority is a letter to Temple written by the Rev. John Whitaker on June 15th, 1795. See also Boswell's letter dated April 8th, 1795.

² My authority is Nancy Temple's journal for 1794.

³ In his letter written from Blundeston on December 16th, 1795, Nicholls addressed Temple as 'The Revd. William Johnston Temple'.

Robert George, little is known save that the former seems to have remained unmarried and to have brought up many of the children of Octavius. Of the eldest son, William Johnston, of Frank, and of John James, I have already furnished some particulars. To these I need only add that Frank retired Rear-Admiral in 1837, was Vice-Admiral in 1847, became Admiral in 1854, and died on January 19th, 1863, at the age of ninety-two, leaving a correspondence with his eldest sister Nancy, written from many stations and stretching over many years, which still survives; and that John James eventually went to India, probably in the East India Company's military service, was present at the taking of Seringapatam in 1799, and died March 13th, 1800, in his twenty-fifth year. Another son, Frederick, obtained a commission in the 29th Dragoons and also went out to India. And yet another, Octavius, also chose a military life, rose to the rank of Major, occupied for many years administrative position in the Ionian Islands, and finished as Lieutenant-Governor of Sierra Leone, where he died in 1834. Like his father, Octavius believed in large families, and he had no less than fifteen children by his wife Dorcas, daughter of Richard Carveth of Probus, near Truro, whom he married on July 8th, 1805. Probus was the parish in which Sir Christopher Hawkins lived; and we are told that the Carveths trace their pedigree through the Le Despencers from Guy Beauchamp, 2nd Earl of Warwick, from whom therefore the late Frederick Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury, and the present William Temple, Archbishop of York, derive their descent.

Anne, the eldest daughter and the third child of the Vicar of St. Gluvias, her father's companion and amanuensis, was born on July 7th, 1772. Into the obscure details of the opposition made by their respective families to her engagement to the Rev. Charles Powlett junior I do not propose to enter. Suffice it to say that, on November 29th, 1796, a little more than three months after Temple's death, the

young couple were married at St. Austell, Cornwall, and that they never secured much pecuniary advantage from the fact that the husband's father was the second natural son of Charles 3rd Duke of Bolton by Lavinia Fenton, the famous Polly of 'The Beggar's Opera'. The married life of Mrs. Charles Powlett junior seems indeed to have been harassing rather than eventful. She had taken for better or worse a husband whose craving for pleasure, love of high company, and reliance on 'expectations' rendered him an incurably bad economist of money—and she paid the full price of her temerity. She travelled about with him from country-town to country-town, as he 'served' his various curacies and exchanged one place for another when the former became too hot to hold him; she permitted him almost uncomplainingly to make those frequent visits to London and to his friends' country seats which he paid with a view to forwarding his interests with persons of rank and fashion; she looked after him and the pupils he took in term time, and waited patiently in the hope of seeing something of him when the Christmas vacation came; she bore him ten children, five of whom died in infancy, including a daughter (Katharine Octavia), to whom her old friend Norton Nicholls acted as godfather; and all the time she kept up that acidulated and indefatigable correspondence with her old and intimate crony Padgy Peters at St. Austell, which appears to have afforded the main relief to the monotony of her existence. She died at Great Dunmow, Essex, on May 1st, 1827, of typhus fever caught in nursing her eldest son Percy. Finding her fatal illness coincide with a fresh crisis in his own financial affairs, the Rev. Charles Powlett paid his creditors at Great Dunmow ten shillings in the pound and retired to the Continent. He passed a year at Outreau and Boulogne; he lived for at least three years and a half at Le Mons; and he died at Brussels in June, 1834, at the age of sixty-nine. Readers who would like to know a little more about him (and he was a genuine 'humorist' or 'character')

may consult with mingled profit and amusement an anonymous obituary notice of him which appeared in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for November, 1830, three and a half years before his actual demise. Checked by a précis of his wife's letters, which one of her descendants has prepared, this notice seems to furnish certainly a very candid but perhaps a not unfair account of his life and character. That Temple had a personal liking and a high regard for Powlett and, had his prospects been less speculative, would gladly have welcomed him as a son-in-law the entries in the older man's diaries abundantly prove.¹

They show, too, mere aids to memory though they are, that their writer was in general a person of warm family affections and a loyal and most assiduous correspondent. Whether he was an entertaining correspondent it is impossible to say; for the letters which he sent to his 'most intimate friend' have never seen the light. True, Boswell describes them² as doing Temple honour 'as a man of reading and taste, extensive reading and elegant taste'. But we may hope that this description conveys an incomplete view of them; for reading and taste such as Temple displays in his published works are hardly the qualities we look for in a good letter-writer. Inaccessible indeed as they are, Temple's letters can only be judged by the stimulus they seem to have given to Boswell's. Mildly remonstrant they may have been; but they must have possessed some sympathetic and some appealing quality or they never would have elicited the most outspoken and unblushing confessions ever made in English literature. It seems probable indeed that, different as they were in many of their tastes, the Scot for instance being a lover of the town, the Englishman a lover of the country, the correspondents resembled one another in a deliberate cult of hedonism and in a tendency to let sensi-

¹ It must be remembered that the Powletts (or Paulets) were Whigs, supporters of Wilkes, and pro-Americans. The Americans honoured them on the Independence Day of 1928.

² In a letter dated November 6th, 1775.

bility triumph over common sense. They were, however, so separated by distance, by temperament, and by pursuits that they can hardly have influenced one another to any effective extent. Boswell certainly, for all his confidences, appears to have wanted no advice from Temple. Nor did Temple allow Boswell's breach with Nicholls¹ or disagreement with Gwatkin² to disturb the uniformly friendly tenor of his own relations with the two men. But unfortunately he was one of those diffident persons who can never recognize that a man must always be his own best counsellor, and he was consequently addicted to pouring out his domestic troubles to Boswell and to Nicholls. The official view of the Temple family seems to be that Boswell gave his friend bad counsel. In a note to one of the early pages of *Memoirs of Archbishop Temple by Seven Friends* (1906) the editor of the first section of the work, Archdeacon Wilson, commits himself to the following statements:

'It is evident that in later years Boswell's influence on Mr. Temple was very mischievous, and that the house was not happy after Mrs. Temple's death.'

Now the second statement is correct enough. Temple's house was not happy after his wife's death; and this for the simple reason that his growing children were deprived of a mother's care, while his elder daughter was fretting under the protraction of her engagement. Temple's case at this time was very similar to Boswell's. The parson and the laird were both widowers; and neither had the inclination, the knack, or the leisure to look after his boys and girls. While Mrs. Temple and Mrs. Boswell were alive, they acted as buffers between their husbands and their children. When they died the two fathers had to deal directly with their families; and both found the task a burdensome one. But what does the Archdeacon mean by his first statement? Does he imply that Boswell was incapable of giving good

¹ See Boswell's letter to Temple dated Sept. 3rd, Nov. 3rd, 1780.

² See later.

advice or that he was capable of giving bad advice? Let us examine the former hypothesis. We will grant that Boswell had many vices, many foibles, many prejudices. But can any intelligent person who has read his *Letters to Temple* and his *Life of Johnson* believe that, in approaching a practical problem of life, he would prove otherwise than sensible and level-headed? Now let us consider the latter notion. Any man who is imperfectly acquainted with the circumstances of a case is liable to give bad advice. But what we are asked to imagine is that Boswell offered wrong counsel not because he was ill-informed but because he was treacherous, and that Temple was gull and fool enough to take it. To anyone who has studied the two men either idea is inconceivable.

Now, thanks to the courtesy and kindness of Mrs. Powlett, widow of the late Admiral Powlett and grand-daughter of Nancy Temple, I have been allowed to examine all Temple's papers that are extant. And what do I find? This, that Nancy Temple, in looking over the latest letters written to her dead father by Boswell, found matter in them, as she thought, that convicted the latter of an attempt to split the Temple family; that in her anger she destroyed the letters in question, thereby removing the only available testimony; and that then, having no contradiction to fear, she ventured to put her own unfavourable construction on what Boswell wrote. Such construction, needless to say, is not evidence. In any case Archdeacon Wilson was not entitled to declare that 'in later years Boswell's influence on Mr. Temple was very mischievous'; for he was basing his allegation not on letters written by James Boswell, not even on letters written by Nancy Temple, but on memoranda derived from this latter-mentioned source. Which memoranda, though far from being valueless, should, since they cannot be checked, have found no place in the official biography of the 95th Archbishop of Canterbury. In order to be quite fair, I will quote the full text, so far as I can collect it, of Nancy Temple's

comments on Boswell, which were made in a letter which she wrote to the Rev. Charles Powlett junior on September 14th, 1796:

‘These Letters from Mr. Boswell have shocked me exceedingly. Poor man, he is dead; were it otherwise, I fear I could not forgive the cruel, unfeeling, unjust, and illiberal manner in which he expresses himself not only of me and my poor Frank but of my excellent and beloved Mother. . . . She disliked Boswell; and the openness of her Nature betrayed her. . . . But what can excuse him for endeavouring to sow dissension in the family of his Friend, for exasperating a Father against his Children by filling him with suspicions which he must have known were base and unworthy both of him and us? . . . I confess I am astonished that my Father could ever again hear either your name or mine with patience after the pains Boswell took to persuade him of our unworthiness.’

It is a formidable indictment; but, unsupported as it is by evidence, I am precluded from examining it. I should like to point out, however, what students of his letters to Temple will remember, that Boswell, always inclined to be a busy-body, had long before this time developed a characteristic habit of regarding every fresh English county he visited as welcome in accordance with its capacity for providing houses in which he might expect to be entertained and saved the expenses of an inn. After his visit to St. Gluvias in 1792 he seems to have considered the Duchy of Cornwall as one of such counties, a county in which he had a sort of independent footing. Two letters which he wrote in 1794, the one to Temple on May 31st, the other to David Boswell on October 13th, appear to show that, basing himself on this footing, he was taking rather an officious interest in two of the Vicar’s oldest Cornish friends, Richard Lovell Gwatkin, the bluff country gentleman who had married Sir Joshua Reynolds’s younger niece, ‘Offy’ Palmer, and the Rev. John Baron, a clergyman for whom Temple always had a regard

compounded of kindness and contempt. In the first letter he remarks:

‘From what you write I am glad I saw no more of Gwatkin when he was in town. I send you his letter to me.’

In the second he gives the following strange authorization to his brother:

‘Put into the banking shop of Mr. Devaynes & Co. five pounds from me to the account of the Rev. Mr. Baron at Lostwithiel, Cornwall, and write to him that you have done so. He takes charge of paying the gratuity to Mary Broad.’

But why should Boswell take the trouble of corresponding with Gwatkin? And why should he, writing from Auchinleck, request a new acquaintance like Baron, who lived in so remote a place as Lostwithiel, to undertake the business of paying a gratuity? It all looks extremely odd and unaccountable; and one cannot help wondering what the real object was in this strange manœuvre. Irons in the fire, of course; but what use did Boswell expect to make of them?

For Temple’s opinions on the Mother Country’s struggle with her American colonists, on the Regicide phases of the French Revolution, on English theologians and French contemporary historians and academicians, and on such trivial questions of taste as the merits of Edward Jerningham’s poetry and of Mrs. Damer’s sculpture, I must refer readers to his letters to Jerningham. His views on Dr. Johnson, however, seem to merit citation. In some unknown publication he appears to have criticized the Doctor severely; for in the original (1857) edition of the Boswell-Temple correspondence the editor quotes the following passage from a letter addressed to him¹ and bearing date of March, 1793:

‘I am glad the swollen and bloated reputation of Johnson owes to your pen a very fair and just pruning and reduction.’

Temple’s ‘pruning’ may possibly have been done in a review of his friend’s *Life of Johnson*; for in another letter,

¹ By a correspondent now discovered to be Norton Nicholls.

embodied in the same collection, one of his correspondents airs his contempt for Boswell in the following words:

‘Who would purchase fame as an author, or in any other way, on such terms as this creature, Boswell!’

His more accessible judgments on Johnson are contained in two letters which he wrote to Jerningham soon after the moralist’s death. The first is made under date of April 14th, 1785:

‘So Dr. Johnson is at last gone! Perhaps his reputation exceeded his merit, and will not gain by time. His learning was not extensive, and his observation confined to common life and manners. I fear my friend Boswell will make him a Divinity, and disgust those who are well enough inclined to allow him the praise he deserves. I can show you a character of him that I believe you will allow to be a true likeness; but Boswell must not see it, nor know who drew it.’

That the man who had ‘characterized’ Gray and had announced his intention of ‘characterizing’ Boswell should have been ambitious of performing the same office for Johnson is, I suppose, natural enough. But how Temple could have conceived himself qualified to limn Johnson’s features on the strength of half a dozen interviews with him is surely a bit of a mystery. That the character which he drew was unfriendly may be gathered from another comment on Johnson and on Boswell which he makes in a letter addressed to the same friend and dated October 3rd of the same year:

‘You think very favourably of your new acquaintance. He tells you he is restless and unhappy: poor man! he will always be so. I have seen only some extracts from the great Doctor’s *Devotions*¹ in the News Papers: they are of the strain you censure, and give one no very high idea of the good sense of his piety. If the rest of his MS.

¹ Dr. Johnson’s *Prayers and Meditations*, published from his manuscripts in 1785 by George Strahan, D.D.

resemble these, his friends would do well to suppress them. They may throw further light on his private character; but little of it was worthy of imitation.

'So Boswell's *Tour* is at last announced to the public. Mr. Malone corrected it, and says, if it has not very great success, he never was so much disappointed. It is wonderful that so much should be written about a man who cannot be said to have *invented* in any thing, and all whose writings turn upon popular and common subjects. The noise that was and is made concerning him may be imputed in great measure to the singularity of his figure and manner rather than to any transcendent merit.'

The writer's fear that his correspondent's 'new acquaintance'¹ might be tempted 'to make his tiger a cat or to cut off his claws' is certainly strange, and merely goes to show how little Temple was in Boswell's confidence at this time. But there is little that is surprising in the would-be characterizer's *judgments*; for, on the first couple of occasions on which the two men met, they obviously failed to hit it off with one another, Johnson respecting the cloth and, as so often happened, caring nothing for the wearer, Temple probably unable to conquer the physical and mental nausea which the Doctor's voracity and declamation aroused in him.

Temple indeed was, in Johnson's words, 'an unclubbable man'. He seems to have been dowered with the unhappy temperament of Macready, with its mixture of whining, irascibility, and thin-skinnedness, with its oscillations between ambition and resignation, and with its mania for discharging all these humours in copious entries in a diary. True, Dr. Boswell, that uncle whom his nephew so strikingly resembled² that at his death he blandly consigned him to Purgatory, called Temple 'a good quiet philosopher, a kind

¹ Boswell knew Jerningham by sight as early as 1775: see his letter to Temple dated October 16th of that year.

² 'He had no conduct. His money was all gone; and, do you know, he was not confined to one woman? He had a strange kind of religion.' Boswell to Temple, November 3rd, 1780.

of Parson Adams'. But I cannot help thinking that, of eighteenth-century clergymen, Robert Potter was much nearer akin to 'Parson Adams' than was William Temple, who, gifted with an eye for the oddities of character and a mordant tongue for describing them, must be pronounced a man more negative than positive, restless, moody, aspiring, highly strung, and singularly devoid of that heartiness, that mental mobility and flow of animal spirits, which gave James Boswell his wonderful buoyancy and resilience. Crippled in his finances by the bankruptcies of the two Mayors of Berwick; married to a wife who disliked and was disliked by his best friend; burdened by the necessity of having to make provision for a large family; bored as a Whig, as a non-drinker, as a scholar, and as an opponent of blood sports, by the only society he could generally enter, that of the country gentlemen of his neighbourhood; prevented from prosecuting his literary studies by an inability to concentrate his powers and by a lack of access to books, which are the ever-recurrent themes of his diaries; a failure in the Church, where he was never promoted even to a canonry; a failure in literature, where he made no sort of visible mark whatever; a failure in general society, which he could not abide, whether in Devonshire or in Cornwall, in Cambridge or in London; Temple was a disappointed man who, long before he died, knew that he would never emerge from obscurity. Small wonder if one so futile, febrile, and querulous, so incapable of making allowance for natural perversity, so cursed, as he tells us, with 'wretched spirits and a delicate frame', lost fortitude and became dissatisfied and soured. No literary man of his time seems to have been so atrabilious, not even Smollett. In whatever company or place he finds himself he grumbles and 'grouses'. The quiet and monotony of Cornwall and the bustle and variety of London are equally odious to him. Himself a reserved and taciturn person, he is perpetually lamenting the absence of 'tolerable conversation'; and when he gets it he belittles it. Not even his nearest and

dearest are immune from his embittered comment. If he is on a journey and his wife fails to write him, he discovers that 'her greatest defect is a certain want of tenderness and affection for any one whatever'. If his daughter gives much of her time to her sweetheart, she thereby furnishes indisputable proof that she has lost all filial affection. His friends, too, suffer in the same way. Nicholls's 'sensibility' is at times as distasteful to him as Boswell's 'insensibility'. On this latter topic indeed Temple waxes almost eloquent in his diaries. To say that he was not blind to Boswell's faults is to give very inadequate expression to his too candid and too critical estimate of his friend's character. I shall quote one entry only dealing with this topic, the first, dated, from London, Sunday, May 25th, 1783:

'B. irregular in his conduct and manners; selfish, indelicate, thoughtless; no sensibility or feeling for others, who have not his coarse and rustic strength and spirits.'

In the main it is, of course, a true account, this strict account to which Temple calls 'the most thinking man' he ever knew; but, coming from him, it is rather an ungenerous account; and it looks like the sentence passed on a full-blooded man by an undervitalized one. But then who can say how exasperated a scholar and a seriously-minded clergyman like Temple may occasionally have become by Boswell's garrulous confessions and evasions, at his pleading guilty again and again to sexual immorality and gross drunkenness, and at the ready excursions he made into casuistry in extenuation of these sins? His two weaknesses indeed, his addiction to wine and to women, and his two passions, the '*culte de moi*'¹ (to quote Maurice Barrès's phrase) and the cult of Johnson, the two former frankly admitted if not paraded, the two latter prosecuted with an amused and amusing shamelessness that has few parallels either in life or in fiction, may well have moved Temple, the

¹ "Boswell was talking away one evening in St. James's Park with much vanity. Said his friend Temple: 'We have heard of many kinds of hobby-horses; but you, Boswell, ride upon yourself.'" *Boswelliana*.

moral and decent man, to wrath and reprobation, and Temple, the human and speculative man, neglected, isolated and stowed away in Cornwall, to a sort of reluctant envy, moral indignation being so often, after all, the ready tribute which inchoate or unsatisfied longing is ready enough to pay to unpunished self-indulgence. Perhaps I had better leave the analysis at this; though it is only fair to add that, to any man who could not laugh at and delight in it, Boswell's display of bumptious patronage, a display so continuously made before Temple, must soon have proved intolerably galling. For, if a sense of humour be, as some of us are inclined to deduce its origin, the feeling emerging from an amused recognition of the disparity between our aims and our achievements, our pretences and our prepossessions, our principles and our practice, our desires and our deserts, then I am sadly afraid that William Johnston Temple in his intercourse with James Boswell must often have demonstrated that he could never attain to it.

LEWIS BETTANY.

FIRST DIARY

Introduction.

THE First of Temple's diaries, which includes entries for 1780, 1781, 1782, and 1783, is contained in a little marble-covered note-book, the dimensions of which are $6 \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ inches. No less than 44 pages of the note-book are devoted to lists of books in all branches of literature, commencing with History (ancient, modern, ecclesiastical, and natural), Voyages and Travels, continuing with Philosophy and Poetry (Greek, Latin, Italian, French, and English), and ending with Divinity, which the diarist had either read or contemplated reading. Possibly most of these books were works which Temple merely consulted or dipped into as aids to the composition of his own *Essays*; for he introduces four pages of Divinity with the reminder, 'N.B. Most of these only to look at or turn over', while he catalogues three pages of History, Antiquities, Letters, and Memoirs as 'Books to buy or read and w^{ch} I find commended in the course of my studies'. His favourite divines seem to have been Barrow, Tillotson, Stillingfleet, South, Atterbury, Sherlock, Clarke, Bossuet, Bourdaloue, and Massillon; but of divinity in the mass he had obviously no very high opinion:

'Nothing discourages so much in the study of Divinity as the number of authors that have written in illustration of the Bible. Advisable to adhere to a few of the best and the Book itself. There is danger of learning bad graces by reading bad Sermons. There are very few indeed that deserve the name of good.'

These lists of books to be procured direct from Dilly or indirectly through the brothers Boswell are prominent features of the first two note-books, the handwriting in which, save where it has faded, is fairly legible, though not so clear as that of the letters to Lord Lisburne and Edward Jerningham. In all the diaries abbreviations are common: 'L^d' for

'Lord', 'Bp.' for 'Bishop', 'Gen.' for 'General', 'Commiss.' for 'Commissioner', 'w^{ch}' for 'which', 'w^d' for 'would', 's^d' for 'should', 'wth' for 'with', 'y' for 'that'. In the first note-book dates are often untrustworthy. This is partly due to the fact that some of the entries have been made week by week instead of day by day; as is proved by the fact that blank spaces have been left for filling in names and days of the month. Moreover the diarist will occasionally head one entry, say, *Tuesday 13th* and the next *15 Wednesday*, or he will give the same date to two days, as in *Tuesday 23* and *Wednesday 23*. He sometimes embraces a whole period under a single date; while he has inked in many passages originally written in pencil and has stowed away some of his entries in odd blank spaces quite regardless of sequence. The literary style of the diaries, it will be noticed, is slovenly in the extreme. Words are repeated instead of synonyms being found; while the vocabulary is so tediously limited that the same expressions occur again and again. To give a finishing touch of eccentricity and morbidity to his effusions Temple frequently indulges a childish habit of apostrophizing himself. His punctuation and use of capitals, which have been retained throughout, are quite arbitrary and immethodical. Sometimes he inserts the comma before the genitive 's'; but he more often omits it. His spelling of names begins to be unreliable even in this first diary. On Friday, May 12th, 1780, he spells Lord Findlater's name as 'Finlater'. On Thursday, May 24th, 1780, he introduces to our notice two gentlemen of Boconnoc, Mr. Foster and Mr. Dickson. On Tuesday, August 13th, 1781, he reintroduces this couple as Mr. Forster and Mr. Dixon. Famous west-country names he gets wrong also. He enters two new addresses in his note-book:

'Mr. Jerningham, Grosvenor Square, South Audley Street.

Edward James Elliot, Spring Gardens.'

And it will be observed that he spells the well-known

borough-monger's name with two l's instead of one. He dines with the greatest man in Devonshire, Viscount Courtenay, and then has the carelessness to enter his host's name as Lord Courtney. This general habit of slovenliness twice betrays him into the commission of grammatical errors. On May 6th, 1780, he writes:

'Not having yet heard from my wife *make* my spirits still worse that they otherwise would be.'

Two days later he records of Bishop Warburton:

'He lived near 20 years . . . in the country, where the plan of all his great works *were* laid.'

With whom Temple was stopping or lodging on the visit he paid to London in 1780 cannot be gathered from his diary. Indeed, he confuses the reader by speaking of himself on May 9th as 'staying at another person's house', and by saying on May 16th that he returned to his 'lodgings'. Fortunately a letter addressed to Edward Jerningham, dated only by its mention of the writer's recent visit to Cambridge, reconciles 'house' and 'lodgings' and shows that Temple had rooms with his old London landlady, Mrs. Alden, at 15 Jermyn Street. He had generally taken her 'first floor'; but on this occasion he had been 'obliged to go higher', a contretemps which prevented his asking Jerningham to call and which seems to have helped to make his whole stay in town uncomfortable. Part of the time he appears to have been Mr. and Mrs. Claxton's guest at Shirley.

In the entry for Friday, May 12th, 1780, Temple says that Norton Nicholls had been at Lord Findlater's 'above 10 months'. This is a mistake: Nicholls had been there less than eight months. In his letter to Temple dated November 3rd, 1779, and included in the original edition of *Letters of James Boswell to the Rev. W. J. Temple*, he declares that he did not arrive at Cullen House till September 21st, 1779. It is strange that Temple, when he got back to Cornwall, should not have checked his statement by a reference to Nicholls's letter.

On Thursday, May 18th, 1780, Temple 'dined at Mrs. Gwatkin's in Leicester Fields'. The lady referred to must be the mother and not the wife of Richard Lovell Gwatkin, who did not marry Mary Theophila Palmer, Sir Joshua's younger niece and model, till 1781.

Among the eight or nine clergymen mentioned as Temple's acquaintance in the first note-book a Mr. Forster (or Foster) of Boconnoc appears to figure; for Temple speaks of him in connexion with the 'Parsonage'. It is doubtful, however, whether this Forster should be identified with the Rev. John Forster—probably Mrs. Temple's brother-in-law—who appears in the diary for 1783; for the Cornish Forster, judged by Temple's finding him in bed at 11 o'clock in the morning, seems to have been a bachelor. Whether the 'Rev. Mr. Forster' to whom Temple writes a letter on September 2nd, 1782, is the Northern or the Western Forster it is impossible to say. On August 7th, 1790, Temple writes to 'Mr. Forster of Boconnoc'. But there are other Forsters whom he met, a Captain Forster, R.N., who owed him money in 1796 and refused to repay it, and a 'Revd. Mr. Forster, who travelled with Lord Bristol's son', a clergyman whom he met at Blundeston in 1795.

Boswell, in a letter to Temple, speaks of his friend's having had two interviews with Dr. Hurd (then Bishop of Lichfield) on his visit to town in 1780. Temple himself, however, in his diary for that year, mentions one only—that of Monday, May 8th. In his record of this interview one sentence:

'In his way to town Bp. Hurd saw him [i.e. Bishop Warburton] at Dr. Middleton's'

is difficult to reconcile with the facts of the three divines' lives, as they are known. With the circumstances of the quarrel between Warburton and Middleton, a chapter in the Deist and Socinian controversy which raged through the greater part of the eighteenth century and which is summarized in Sir Leslie Stephen's *English Thought in the Eighteenth*

Century, I am not concerned. The question at issue is not how this quarrel arose but whether it was ever made up. The story Temple relates, on the alleged authority of Hurd, requires us to believe that a reconciliation was effected between Warburton and Middleton and that Hurd was present at a meeting between the two men, which must have taken place not earlier than 1749, the year in which Hurd made Warburton's acquaintance, and not later than July 28th, 1750, the day on which Middleton died. 'A Discourse by way of general preface to the Quarto Edition of Bishop Warburton's Works, containing some account of the Life, Writings and Character of the Author', was published by Dr. Hurd in 1794. I have taken the trouble to read this 'Discourse', and I find not only that the author fails to mention such a meeting but that he nowhere claims even to have made Middleton's acquaintance. Moreover, to prove that, despite the cessation of their correspondence since 1741, 'no change appears to have been made in Mr. Warburton's opinion or even esteem' of Middleton, he makes a quotation from a letter which Warburton wrote him [i.e. Hurd] from Prior Park on July 11th, 1750, 'just before the Doctor's death'. This quotation shows then that Warburton would not have refused to meet Middleton in 1750. But it shows quite as positively that, so far as Dr. Hurd was aware, no such meeting took place then or in the previous year. Whether Hurd was actually acquainted with Middleton seems doubtful. He could of course easily have got to know him through their common friend, Gray.

Temple's entries for Saturday, May 20th, and Monday, May 22nd, 1780, are concerned with a Mr. Harrington of Mamhead. A letter written to Mrs. Temple on September 19th, 1779, by Mrs. Collins, wife presumably of the Mr. P. Collins of Mamhead who is mentioned in the entry for Sunday, May 21st, 1780, contains an allusion to this Mr. Harrington which is perhaps worth preserving:

'The Harringtons enquire for you often. Mr. H. is just in

the same way, as when you left Mamhead. They have another Tutor for their son. Mr. Smerdon left them in May last, he did not chuse to stay longer. He is as fond of study, as it is Possible for a young man to be; but it is a melancholy Confinement to sit so much with Mr. Harrington. Indeed they do not make it worth a Gentleman's while; for Mr. H. gives but Seventy pounds a year for the Serving the Curacy and being Tutor to his Son. Mr. Smerdon left them on that account, and so will every person, that hath any thing to depend on, in some time. But I don't chuse they should know I say so; for Mr. Smerdon and them are on good terms, and they wished to keep him. They have now a Mr. Haytor, who hath got the living of Chagford, and I am told does not like to live there. So long as that is the case, I suppose he will stay with them.'

Mr. Harrington seems to have been in orders; for on March 24th, 1785, Temple records his writing a letter 'to Revd. Mr. Harrington'. He turns up again in Temple's diaries in the entries for February 26th and 27th, 1791, when he is accompanied by his son (or son-in-law) Mr. Champernowne. The Mr. Haytor mentioned by Mrs. Collins is probably to be identified with the (Rev.) Mr. Haytor for whom Temple preached at Powderham on Sunday, May 21st, 1780. Temple seems to have known Mr. Smerdon too; for he wrote letters to him on July 1st, and on November 22nd, 1784.

All this, I am afraid, is a chronicle of small beer; but perhaps it helps to place Temple as a parish priest.

The 'Lord Courtney', with whom Temple dined on Sunday, May 21st, 1780, was William, 2nd Viscount Courtenay and *de jure*, 8th Earl of Devon. His lordship was born in 1742, and succeeded his father in 1762. In the same year he married Frances, daughter of Thomas Clack of Wallingford, Berks. She died in 1782; he died in 1788. His son, William, 3rd Viscount Courtenay, succeeded in 1831 in establishing

his right to the Earldom of Devon and became 9th Earl. But, by dying without issue in 1835, he caused the Viscountcy to become extinct. The Earldom then passed to his cousin, the 10th Earl being William, son of that Dr. Henry Reginald Courtenay, Rector of St. George's, Hanover Square, whom Temple heard preach on Sunday, May 30th, 1790. In 1794, Dr. Courtenay was consecrated Bishop of Bristol, and in 1797 he was translated to Exeter. Powderham Castle, Exeter, has been the seat of the Courtenays for many generations.

Lady Vyvyan, with whom Temple dined on October 7th, 1782, was the widow of Sir Richard Vyvyan, the 5th Baronet, who died on October 13th, 1781. Her maiden name was Jane Hawkins, and she was the daughter of Christopher Hawkins of Trewinnard. Both Sir Richard and his brother and successor, the Rev. Sir Carew Vyvyan, died without issue. Sir Carew was called after his maternal grandfather the Rev. Carew Hoblyn, some relation doubtless of the clergyman of the same name—Mr. Hoblyn of Gwennap—whom Temple knew. The seat of the Vyvyans, whose baronetcy dates from 1645, is Trelowarren, Helston.

This edition of Temple's diaries is expected to appeal chiefly to Boswellian scholars and amateurs. I have therefore thought that I should be committing an impertinence were I to load the pages of the book with information that can be gained from accessible works of reference. Those readers who would obtain particulars about the celebrities—mainly divines—whom Temple mentions in his first note-book are recommended to consult *The Dictionary of National Biography*. To discover the name of the Bishop of a particular diocese in a given year they should turn to *Crockford's Clerical Directory*, where they will find a complete list of all the Anglican Archbishops and Bishops.

Temple has included in the first note-book a copy of an undated letter, not otherwise extant, which he wrote to Dr. Hurd in 1780. It bears on his studies and runs as follows:

‘My Lord,

I flatter myself your Lordship will excuse the liberty I am going to take. When I had the honour of waiting on your Lordship in May last I mentioned some papers I had by me. Among these is one on humour and politeness

^{Notes}

among the Ancients. In your Lordship’s Commentary on Horace’s Art of Poetry p. 224 you commend a book *Recueil de bons contes et de bons mots* w^{ch} I imagine will throw great light on my subject. I endeavoured to procure this book both in town and at Cambridge but without success. If it is in your Lordship’s Collection and you will be so obliging as to send it to my bookseller Mr. Dilly to be forwarded to me, I shall look upon it as a particular favour and will return the Book with many

^{readiness}

thanks. Your Lordship’s love of Letters and desire to assist and encourage those who cultivate them will be my best apology for this freedom. I am

My Lord

Your Lordship’s obliged
and obedient humble serv^t

W. J. T.’

FIRST DIARY, 1780-2

1780

April 11th. (but really a summary of the whole expedition).
Began my journey to London and Cambridge in hopes of amusement and information. Miserably disappointed. In town very few acquaintance. People are in such an hurry and so much engaged by a variety of amusements that all people are alike to them. Might have had access to the Museum, but could not compose myself to recollection and study. No better at Cambridge. Foolish to have come hither, cannot stay long enough to avail myself of the Libraries. The dirt and slovenliness of the Colleges and confined conversation, insupportable. Find I can study with advantage only at home, where my day is likewise varied with riding and walking. Besides I read with more eagerness when I get a parcel of books from London w^{ch} I have long wished for. Further travelling disagrees with me in every respect; disorders my stomach, oppresses my spirits. Shall not therefore leave home again in hopes of greater enjoyment. Even when staying with a friend not comfortable. To be constantly with any one from morning till night is what I cannot support. In short such a small degree of happiness as I am capable of, is only to be found at home, where I study, or walk, or ride as I am disposed. I set down these minuits to prevent my being dissatisfied when I return, or flattering myself with the hopes of increasing enjoyment by changeing the scene. This experiment has cost me more than I ought to throw away, but it will teach me to be wiser for the future. Shall return to London the beginning of next week, where I will stay a few days to make a few visits and buy some books and other things, then a week wth Claxton, then home. Mortified to the last degree to have known myself so little. My wife judged better. Never will I set out

on such knight errantry again: besides it is disagreeable without ones own servant and horses. What a number of good books might I have bought with what this foolish journey has and will cost me? Must some time or other undertake a Northern Journey but will defer it as long as I well can.—Be assured that home is preferable to all other places: even with the noise of children &c.—I think something relative to Parliament w^d be read now or at any time with avidity.—Must be content to enlarge and digest my facts of *superstition* as I have opportunity.—The rise and decline of Papal Usurpation w^d not be a popular subject at present.—Could one meet with particulars Eulogies in the manner of D'Alembert might be well received.—Must be content to read the choicest books I can meet with and make the best use of them I can, either by collecting from them or pursuing the thoughts they suggest.

Despotism.

Causes of Sedition.

Superstition.

Parliament.

Moral and Political Essays.

Sermons.

Eulogies.

If I hope to do any thing, must build the Study I have some time intended and furnish it with the best books. Never think of leaving home again with a view to read. No Journeys of Pleasure to me, they are journeys of fatigue. The expence of a journey would be equal to the price of Books enough on any subject. I trust I shall always attend to these particulars.

29th. Astonishingly depressed in my Spirits. How shall I hold out till Wednesday or Thursday? Did I not expect Letters from my wife and Claxton would go to-morrow. Endeavour to amuse myself in the P. Library, and with Bayle and Jortin's Erasmus, for I can meet with nothing relative to my subject in the books I reckoned upon. O what a foolish expedition is this!

30th. Jortin's Life of Erasmus a *very* poor performance; ill-connected, without ingenuity or method.—In these times, one cannot enter into the spirit of Bayles Critique on Maimbourg. It now seems even prolix and tiresome. So much does the *fashion* of a book depend on the Times!

May. Trin: Hall

1st. Being Holyday the P. Library not open. Wrote to my dearest wife.

2nd. Wrote to Mr. Webber. Dr. Brown called upon me in the morning and offered me any assistance. Dr. Brown was so obliging in the evening as to bring me several vols. of the Lettres Edifiantes and to send the rest.

3rd. But I find I cannot read or collect here to any purpose, and find myself oppressed for want of my usual exercise. Must never think therefore of reading any where to advantage but at home, where I can mix study and exercise. You must submit to buy all the books you want, and chuse such subjects as do not require a large collection.

4th. Dined with Dr. Hallifax: who was very civil and obliging. It is sometimes wisdom to overlook the imperfections of our friends or acquaintance and to avoid making enemies. Determined to go to-morrow. Find I can do nothing here. Dr. Hallifax and Dr. Brown called upon me again. Determined to go being miserable at not hearing from my wife. The Libraries at Cambridge not well furnished with books. No studies there in any credit but mathematical ones. No assistance from conversation in historical or political studies. London with the Museum infinitely preferable.

London May 6th. Now I am here again how solitary I feel. Hardly know any body. Home is the place for little people who are little known. No living in London without servants and a carriage. 6th. Saw the Bp. of Exeter and sat with him some time. He sets out for Exeter to-morrow. Wish I were gone; uncomfortable here. Met Mr. Milles at

the Bps. He engaged me to dine wth his Father, the Dean. Not made to bustle and push myself in the wor^d. No strength of mind but when alone in a room. Wretched spirits and a delicate frame. Made for Tranquillity and domestic peace: yet sometimes absurd enough to wish to be engaged in more active life. Always repining at home w^{ch} shews want of wisdom and philosophy.—Not having yet heard from my wife make my spirits still worse than they otherwise w^d be. Apprehensive that some accident has happened to her or one of the children: yet I hope not, as She often cares not what pain She gives: her greatest defect is a certain want of tenderness and affection for any one whatever. A month absent, and not a Line! How differently some people must be formed from others!

Sunday. Dined at the Dean of Exeters. Did not find myself disposed to say much. The conversation chiefly engrossed by the Deans sons and a Mr. Hollis who was there. Want of spirit to be under too great restraint in conversation. Why not express one's sentiments with a manly freedom?—You want nothing from any of them. Consider too the advantages you have over the Generalty.—It is only by Letters you can become considerable. They may procure respect and esteem from the few and preferment that may be of use to your children. Hence perhaps you may find it advisable to come occasionally to town for the sake of books and information: but nothing less than a Bishoprick will enable a clergyman to live comfortably in town. Disagreeable to mix much in the great world wthout great property. It gives ease, confidence and even grace. A good rule, Think highly of yourself, and Others will think highly of you. That is express yrself with a noble and generous confidence. Let your manner be easy and unconstrained and not seemingly occupied with yourself.

It is unlucky Mr. Milles proposed calling on you tomorrow: fear it will make you too late for the Bp. of Lichfield. The Bp. of Exeter said, Nothing in Theology has lately

come out, w^{ch} you know concerns us. What sermons could one write on such a subject! Think of this. Sermons.

Monday 8th May. It rains. Now one feels the want of a carriage: but I must not lose all this day. Must coach it to Gr Russel Street and to the city: it may grow fair in the afternoon. What s^d a man in no public capacity and of little fortune do in London? The Bp. of Lichfield received me in the kindest manner and told me many curious circumstances relative to the early part of Bp. Warburton's Life; represented him as a most friendly person and most easy to live with. His manner to strangers very forbidding, as he looked upon them in some degree as the interrupters of his studies. Before he became so famous he lived near 20 years in studious retirement in the country, where the plan of all his great works were laid. Such was his application y^t he often sat up the whole night. To prevent his reading immediately after dinner his mother and sister used to force themselves into his study and oblige him to drink coffee. His defence of Mr. Pope against Crouzaz first brought <him> into notice and procured him the friendship of that Poet, Mr. Murray &c. In his way to town Bp. Hurd saw him at Dr. Middletons, sallow and emaciated: had he continued in his retirement he w^d soon have killed himself with study. He said he was a sincere friend to the Church of England and an encourager of merit. He thinks his style not only strong and nervous but often supremely elegant. The scurrility and abuse y^t were poured upon him both by the Clergy and others affected him very sensibly.—Could not help entertaining the most favourable opinion of Bp. Hurd from this specimen of his open and communicative disposition. Really love and reverence the man. When I took my leave of him he said he hoped I w^d call upon <him> when I came to town again and that he w^d be happy to serve me in any thing that lay in his power. Went into the city where I laid out Ten pounds in things I wanted. Then dined, then the Exhibition, then home.—The Bp. said Dr. Warburton used

to conceive the Plan of his work, then write rapidly for the Press, then correct in a 2^d edition.—Made happy by a Letter from my wife, my suspicions and anxieties all groundless; yet one of the children is ill and one under inoculation.

Tuesday 9th May. Breakfasted wth Mr. Jerningham; we then went to Sir J. Reynolds, Jervas's &c. Dined at Mrs. Bedford's in Great Ormond Street.—Vain to expect attachment where you live at a great distance and there is little probability of meeting often. People in general are content to form intimacies with those who are near them and with whom they expect chiefly to live. They may esteem and wish well to others but they can do little more.—Claxton in town on business, but comes to-morrow. Shall stay a day or two and then to the West. Hope this experiment will convince me that any enjoyment I am capable of is more likely to be met with at home than any where else. My appetite has been better this than on any former journey; owing probably to the early season of the year.

The place of Bp. Warburton's retirement was Market Harborough in Leicestershire.

Find it difficult to fill up the day agreeable when staying at another person's house. One cannot read with attention, to compose is impossible.

11th Thursday. Wrote to Mrs. Temple.—Company dined with us to-day. Tolerably amused: yet find that unless Books engross part of my day, existence is no satisfaction. Much more ardent in Literary pursuits at home than abroad: They likewise appear of more consequence in solitude. Is not then Retirement best calculated for some Literary pursuits?

Friday 12th May. This will never do. No horse, no variety of amusement. Walking so much affects my leg and thigh. Must get home as soon as I can. It is strange that one tires so much sooner abroad than at home! tho' with a friend one greatly esteems. At home one has a certain habit of passing one's time, otherwise abroad. Cannot conceive how

Nicholls amuses himself at Lord Finlaters in Scotland: he has now been there above 10 months: he has got into a method.—To Mr. Jerningham.—Every day I find more reason to think that I am capable of no other enjoyment than that of reading and reflecting and conversing with a friend.

Saturday 13th. Rec^d a most refreshing Letter from my dearest wife. Wrote to Mr. Baron.

Sunday 14th. I can hardly express the longing desire I have to return home. Quite sinking under languor and ennui. Losing time to no purpose. Hope I shall never think again of leaving my own home, unless it be absolutely necessary. In general, the prattle of one's family is full as entertaining as any thing one hears in company.—Must endeavour to make the best of that situation where Nature has placed us: or Fortune.

Monday 15th. Left my most worthy friend Claxton and returned to London, having in the morning taken a ride to Hays Lord Chathams. On a small scale, but in a good taste.

Tuesday 16th. Breakfasted with Mr. Jerningham; but his brother's coming to town prevented his going with me to Mr. J. Pitts. Then called at Lord Lisburne's; then at Mrs. and Miss Compton's lodgings; then returned to the Admiralty to Lord Lisburnes where I dined very comfortably and sat till 8. Then to my Lodgings.—London is a most disagreeable place, where one cannot settle to do any thing: that is, if one's stay is but short.

Wednesday 17th. Bought several things in the city. Dined there at Mr. Dilly's, where were some strange people.

Thursday 18th. Breakfasted with Mr. Jerningham. Dined at Mrs. Gwatkins in Leicester Fields. In the evening met S. (Stockdale?) at the Bedford coffee house.

Friday 19th. Set out on my return, travelled all night.

Saturday 20th. Got to Exeter, took a bed at Mr. Harringtons.

Sunday 21st. Rode to Powderham to preach for Mr. Haytor, dined with Lord Courtney, drank tea with Mr. P.

Collins having rid before dinner to view the improvements at Mamhead.

Monday 22. Took an airing in Mrs. Harrington's coach. Dined &c. with them.

Tuesday 23. Set out for Plymouth. In vain to go from home in search of enjoyment. There is nothing to counterballance the fatigue of postchaises, inns &c. Where does one hear any thing that is worth remembering? How ill qualified are the Generalty to bear a part in conversation. Shall endeavour to make my situation comfortable at home, and if Preferment pleases She may find me out.—Made easy by a most pleasing letter from my dearest wife, telling me the children are both recovered.—Wrote this at the inn while the Chaise was getting ready.—Got to Liskeard from Plymouth between 9 and ten. An uncomfortable night soldiers being at the inn.

Wednesday 23. Set out at 6 for Lostwithiel where I got to Mr. Baron's by breakfast, Mr. Quick and others there. Staid with him all the day: we amused ourselves with walking through the fields &c. near his house. The shape of the ground is very beautiful, consisting of fine swelling hills, forming a kind of Theatre, charmingly wooded, with a clear stream rushing through the valley.

Thursday 24th. We rode to Boconnoc and called on Mr. Foster, who was in bed though past eleven o'clock. Boconnoc presents one of the finest scenes I almost ever saw. Nobly broken ground, steep banks clothed with wood to the very summits, winding walks cut through them to the extent of five miles, a charming valley and rivulet or rather considerable stream, of w^{ch} you have every now and then fine reach through the wood. Mr. Foster and Mr. Dickson, his friend and companion, dined with us.

Friday 25. Rode to Heligan, Mr. Tremaynes, where I dined. An extensive view from it both of sea and land, but little internal beauty. Got to my own house and Family about 8 in the evening, after an absence of near seven weeks.

The Journey did not by any means answer my purpose in taking it, and was both expensive and fatiguing. A caution not to go so far from home again unless under an absolute necessity. An excursion of a week may amuse, but any thing more is a fatigue.

16th June (an entry covering June, July, August, and part of September). How soon we forget our former feelings: wishing to go from home again and imagining I should be happier. What Folly!—Done very little during the hot months of June, July, and August and part of September: my ardour for study much checked by the want of Books and conversation. Yet hope during the approaching winter to be able to effect something: otherwise I fear my spirits will fall too low to rise again.

Sept. Been obliged of late to give and take several dinners, but find such general society rather fatigues than amuses my spirits: must rest my happiness on my accustomed enjoyments, my own thoughts, my books and exercise. The season for severe study is just at hand.

25th. From October till June no excuse for indolence, or amusement. Cannot bear repletion or general conversation. Temperance and quiet, my motto. Quite ashamed of my late inactivity; but will rouse myself. Wish I could adhere to this method. Till eleven write; read till one. Ride. Dinner. Walk till Five. Write or read till ten.

1781

February. Minuits of views, designs &c.—Very much out of order for above ten days; never knew what it was to be ill before.

12th. To Major Pool.—Sketch of a long Letter to Nicholls.

March 3rd. Shall read no more Sermons but with a view to help me in composing. Give up my whole time (except Sundays) to History and Polite Literature.—Warburton, Lowth¹ and Hurd as ingenious and fine writers, rather than

¹ This name may be South.

as Divines. Let your Sermons be chiefly practical, and calculated to the improvement and instruction of your Parish. Think of their good rather than a name by publication.

To Mr. Nicholls, to Mr. Boswell, to Mr. Claxton.

Turning over the greater part of the old Testament. Cannot enter into the unconnected and exaggerated stile of the Prophets. There is a great sameness in their images and allusions. They seem to consider their own countrymen as the only people in the world and alone worthy of the divine attention and favour. This selfish narrow way of thinking is highly disgusting. Posterity will wonder that all the nations of Europe s^d be better acquainted with the history

nation

of this vile execrable people than with their own. The principal crime imputed to them is Idolatry and neglect of the Mosaick Law. The violation of the moral virtues is slightly insisted upon. Few passages seem to relate (naturally and without straining) to our Saviour and the Gospel. The double sense imputed to Prophecies is a bold pretention and I s^d think difficult to make out satisfactorily. Must get Warburton.

1st August 1781 *⟨An entry made immediately after that of September 25th, 1780.⟩* Will it not be more advisable for me to lay out my money in books than in improving my house &c. There is nobody to entertain. Composition may procure you preferment: it will then be worth your while to have things more commodious about you. Books & a Study are your first object; then enlarge your parlour and garden. Criticism, morals, history: direct to poets, historians and moralists. Have not the command of my thoughts in this weather.

September 23rd. *⟨An entry made immediately after that of March 3rd 1781.⟩* Have thoughts of removing the hedge and wall in front of the house: on enlarging &c the parlour.¹ Only Gwatkin, Beauchamp. A well furnished study can be your only source of entertainment. Reckon on no other.

¹ After 'parlour' a line has been erased and is illegible.

November 12. Took down the wall in front, made a winding walk from the Church to the Vicarage with shrubs on each side.

1782

Feb. 13th. *(An entry made immediately after that of 1st. August 1781.)* Nothing against will avail: any thing for inconsistent. Avoid present transactions. Abide by history, morals & criticism. May be of more use in an indirect way, by recommending the private virtues & pointing out the evil consequences of arbitrary government by historical Facts. Essay of Despotism, Sedition &c. will rank under this head. To excell in the eloquence of the Pulpit.

March 21 *(An Entry made immediately after that of November 12th, 1781.)* Took away the hedge; gravelled the walks; built a wall to confine the earth. These alterations and improvements cost me upwards of twelve pounds.

Tuesday 13th August. Set out with my wife on a little tour. Rode to Heligan, Mr. Tremaynes, to dinner 20 miles. Found there Mr. Bettesworth and Nathan Garrick and their wives and a Mr. Williams, vicar of the parish, nicknamed Truth. Staid all night, but the weather was so rainy had no opportunity of viewing the grounds. Next morning in spite of the weather proceeded to Lostwithiel 14 miles, to the Revd. Mr. Baron, Vicar of the town. We met there at dinner Mr. Forster and Mr. Dixon of Boconnoc and Mr. Harris, Mr. Macgilvray and Mr. Elliot. The afternoon passed pleasantly enough.

15 Wednesday. Mr. Baron and I took a ride to Lanhydrock, a seat of Mr. Hunts. The house is Gothick, but mutilated. There is a curious old gateway, formerly united to the mansion and leading to it, but now detached and standing by itself. There is too much roughness and wildness in the park, but in some places it is well wooded. Mr. Hunt had made some new plantations forming a sort of belt round the park; but generally the walk instead of being in the middle is on the outside of the plantation or belt, so that you have

a constant glare and no variety. This almost joins with Glyn, the seat of the family of that name. It is chiefly composed of an extensive valley finely wooded with a fine stream winding through it. Thursday in the evening Mr. Forster came to conduct us to Boconnoc, whither we accompanied him.

Friday. The weather was unfavourable. We took various views of the park and grounds. The stile of this place is highly picturesque. It is a beautiful assemblage of wood, waters, lawn, bank and valley. Its most beautiful feature is a valley the Banks on each side finely wood(ed) with some times meadow, sometimes corn fields interspersed, a clear rivulet called the Leyrin running at bottom. The Parsonage stands in this valley, with a charming view both above and below. The site of Boconnoc house is higher on a fine open lawn which opens to an extensive prospect.

Saturday. Rode to Bodithiel bridge. This is a most striking scene. The Banks are bolder and more highly wooded, a noble stream.

Sunday. Before prayers rode in the parish of Boconnoc. Fine points of view, the grounds charmingly broken.

Monday. Rowed up the Leyrin till its confluence with Lostwithiel river then up the river to Fowey. Still nobler and loftier banks and woods strikingly irregular in their appearance, one while opening, another contracting themselves; the river forms itself into three lakes, which till you come near seem to have no communication. This row of five miles terminated all on a sudden by a noble view of the sea and the town of Fowey. To walk, though made in Elizabeth's time, pleasingly irregular. Rowed back again to St. Winow the vicarage of Mr. Walker where we all dined. On the opposite side Penquoit Mr. Rashleigh's an ugly

dotted

house, the lawn too much crowded with trees. Rowed past St. Winow in sight of Lostwithiel and its tower, w^{ch} had a fine effect. Returned to Lostwithiel.

Tuesday. Rode with Mr. Baron to Lunulian Valley, a very singular appearance running from[†] and from[†]

The country around wild and savage, the valley scattered over with immense stones or rather rocks, a rapid stream at bottom. The banks boldly advancing or retiring, sometimes thickly wooded, sometimes bare. The same day Prideaux wood, consisting of lofty and richly wooded banks, our ride was terminated by a beautiful range of sweetly swelling hills ending in the sea.

Thursday evening. Returned to Gluvias. All this neighbourhood is the Arcadia of Cornwall abounding in finely broken grounds, wood, water and all the materials of Land-skip, infinitely diversified. There is much intercourse among the Gentry, they are liberal and sociable.

Trinity lies in the middle of a valley through w^{ch} runs the river of Lostwithiel: the valley is of considerable breadth and length: the eastern side is composed of a beautiful series, range of swelling hills with hedge rows and cultivation: the western of a noble and lofty bank of wood proudly aspiring into the air, clouds, on the top of w^{ch} stands the noble ruins of an ancient castle, formerly the residence of the Dukes of Cornwall. It is of a circular form with battlements encrusted with ivy. The walls and form of the rooms and apartments intended for various purposes still remain. Through this rich bank of wood are cut winding walks. From hence at openings between the trees you have fine reaches of the river, of the distant country and a fine back ground composed of wood, water and sloping bank behind Mr. Mastermans house. The approach to his house Mr. M. left to his gardener w^{ch} is little and injudicious, making the house appear to lie in a pit, whereas had the road been directed by the river, it w^d have been one of the most striking imaginable. To spoil all is an artificial ruin which you see from the road at the same <time> you do the real one. The valley runs from South to North and about the middle takes another

[†] Blank spaces have been left for filling in words.

direction towards the West still attended with wood and stream.

Friday 23. During this excursion my spirits and appetite were better than usual, owing to the variety, the change of scene and company; yet frequent visits into that neighbourhood w^d not be proper. Might go to a concert. Home and my Study the only place for true enjoyment.

August 31st. Dined at Flushing wth Capt. Wauchope. Nothing passed to amuse. Shall associate only with those whose company may amuse or do me credit. A walk after dinner is infinitely preferable to wine and uninteresting conversation.

September 2d. To Rev. Mr. Forster. To Mr. Cornish. Nichols Anecdotes of Bowyer. A heavy prolix compilation, yet containing some curious information. Still losing my time in unavailing regret. Can accomplish nothing for want of Libraries.

5th. To Mr. Dilly and to Mr. Cornish.

7th. To Mr. Clarke at Naples.

9th. To Mr. Boswell on the death of his father the 30th of August 1782.

10th. Tea at Roscrow. Will not think of keeping any sort of company till I can keep a carriage. Increase my collection of Books and improve my spirits and health by gentle exercise. Hope to be very diligent from October till March or April when I purpose going to town with my Papers. As soon as this excessive heat and my bathing is over shall be very assiduous.

11th. Revd. Mr. Dillon dined with me. I asked him because I expected Revd. Mr. Cornish from Gevons to pay him for his horse; who did not come.

14th. Dined at Penryn at Mr. Crowgeys with Mr. Beauchamps family. Prevented my sleeping so well as usual. Cannot say that any thing was advanced worth remembering. Wherever one goes, how seldom does it happen otherwise. It always must be so at such a distance from the sources of information.

17th. Think I had first better give the Essays on Humour and Politeness, Sensibility, Superstition and on a Ballance in Human affairs in one volume, and then in another those on Parliament, Nobility, Despotism, and Sedition.

21. To Mr. Tremayne. Mr. Wichell.

25. Dined at Flushing at Capt. Wauchope's: not amused and kept from sleeping by the strong tea till near three o'clock. Should never go out and dine from home.

October

7th. Dined at Enys with Lady Vyvyan, Miss Hawkins &c. Not much amused yet as well as at home, and some variety. Saw some caricatures of Mr. Bunbury's. Can never visit as I wish till I keep a carriage. Till then stay at home, read, write.

23d. Unless you turn your reading to the subjects you have been considering may stay here as long as you live. No more trifling.

25th. So much interrupted, find I shall be able to accomplish nothing, unless I build a study, and get all my books about me. Absolutely necessary for my tolerable enjoyment, and may be of use in improving my fortune. Decline even the little society within your reach and keep to yourself. That does not amuse you and serves only to waste your time. Grow more dissatisfied with myself every day and must take another course. Went by invitation to Enys in the afternoon to hear Miss Hawkins play on the harp. Much entertained.

28th. To Mr. Baron. To Mrs. Forster. To Mr. Stephens, Secretary to the Admiralty. In vain to think of asking a few friends or acquaintance; no assembling them, and their conversation does not answer—compensate—for the expence and trouble. After Wednesday (30th) shall give no voluntary dinners. Give up myself entirely to my books and Papers.

October 28th. This disagreeable restlessness intirely owing to want of books and a pursuit. Must subdue it.

November

1. Think of nothing but of buying what books you want in order to finish your papers. Can make myself known and acquire friends only by writing. Cannot bear the thought of always remaining or rather vegetating here. Perhaps better then to think of removal than of accommodation. Will be much more convenient for the education of my children, especially my two daughters. There is infinitely more pleasure in reading and reflecting than in any society I was ever so fortunate as to meet with. Cards are still less amusing.

4th. Rev. Mr. Hoblyn called and dined with me. Revd. Mr. Baron came in the evening.

Wednesday 6th. The Rev. and Mr. Webber and Capt. Mukins dined with us.

Friday 8th. Capt. Mukins again.

9th. Mr. Baron left me the 9th. Does not improve on intimacy. Dull, sluggish, and of no curiosity. Learning very confined. Neither amusement nor credit from such an acquaintance.

19th. At the assembly. Plaid at cards; staid too late.— Find no plan will do but that study and retirement. Nobody near you to whom Letters are a recommendation. What entertainment in general conversation: how superficial, how unconnected? It would have been a relief to have had one reading, conversable neighbour.

December

6th. Ætat: 43. Cannot bear the thought of continuing here. Determined to bend all my views to obtain a more eligible situation. No method but that of distinguishing yourself as a man of Letters. Scruple not then to buy all the books you want: you may be amply repaid. Being in London once a year might also be of use:— — — to get books, to preserve and enlarge y^r acquaintance. — — — Besides what con-

December 1782

25

cerns your particular views those authors and subjects that furnish the general subjects of conversation. At 43, no season to trifle. Such exercise only as will keep you in health. Abstemious diet.

31. Mr. Hawkins about the Meeting.

SECOND DIARY

Introduction

THE little note-book containing the second diary is an exact replica of that in which the first is entered. Lists of books occupy 24 pages of it; others record addresses and expenses incurred in London. The addresses include:

W. Flamank, Trin: Coll: Oxon.

Brocklesby, No. 4, Frith Street, Soho.

Mr. Douglas, Edward Street, Cavendish Square.

Mrs. Bedford, (No. 53) Great Ormond Street.

Mr. Forster, at Owen's, Surrey Street.

Mr. T. D. Boswell, No. 12 Gr. Distaff Lane, Friday Street.

Bp. Hurd, Gr. Russell Street, Bloomsbury.

Bp. Halifax, Dartmouth Street, near George Street.

Messrs. Egerton's Military Library, near Whitehall.

Brooksbank, Ruddell and Wade, Stockbrokers under the Royal Exchange.

Mr. Molini, French Bookseller in Woodstock Street, where Didot's edition of Fenelon may be seen in 4to at 15 livres a volume. Didot is also printing a fine edition of the Encyclopédie in 4to.

Among the expenses noted are:

Lent Boswell 10. 6., 5. 0.

Boswell paid part of a chaise for me to Richmond Lodge.

Paid Mr. H. for B. 7. 0.

1783, 2, *May, London.*

Expenses with Nicholls	17. 0
with Mr. H.	10. 0
Ranelagh	4. 6
Charity	1. 6

7th.

Expenses	6.	0
Stockings	1.	6. 0
Do.	5.	0
Lost at Cards	2.	0
Gloves	2.	0
Coach Hire	2.	6
Do.	1.	0

14

Expences to Shirley	7.	6
Expences with Mr. Hawkins	5.	6
Charity	1.	0
Razors	10.	0
Comb		4
Expences to Richmond	2.	0
Townly's	1.	0

21

Wig	1.	5. 0
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23

Boots	1.	8. 0
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22

Expences for seeds &c.	5.	0
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Expences to R. with Mr. H.	4.	0
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Various articles to John	16.	11
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Dinner	4.	0
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Church		6
--------	--	---

Dinner	3.	0
--------	----	---

6 P ^{ds} Sago	9.	0
------------------------	----	---

Cushion &c.	10.	6
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Wax taper	3.	6
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Pantheon &c.	12.	0
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Locket	19.	0
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Cap for A.	1.	1. 0
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Diligence	2.	2. 0
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Postchaise	1.	4. 6
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Mr. J. Dilly in addition to the		
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Diligence	8.	0
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Boswell for Newcastle Fly	1.	1. 0
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Dinner for him	2.	9
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At Bugdon for him	5.	8
At York for him	6.	0
At Durham do.	2.	6
At Newcastle do.	4.	6
Chambermaid do.		9
⟨At⟩ Alnwick do.	2.	9
June 8th. Lent	2.	2. 0

In the visit he paid to town in 1783 Temple experienced peculiar good luck; for, arriving just a month after the formation of the Coalition Ministry of Fox and North, he met not only Edmund Burke, the new Paymaster of the Forces, and Richard Brinsley Sheridan, the new Secretary to the Treasury, but the three friends of his youth, James Boswell, John Claxton, F.S.A., and Norton Nicholls, along with that later friend Edward Jerningham, to say nothing of Dr. Johnson, whom he saw three times, twice at the Doctor's house, No. 8 Bolt Court, and once at Bennet Langton's. Among the other well-known persons he came across were Richard Owen Cambridge (the 'fortunatus senex'), David Boswell (his banker), Robert Strange (ex-Jacobite and engraver), Isaac Reed (the Shakespearian scholar), Charles Dilly (the publisher) and his brother Squire John, Colonel Stuart (the Earl of Bute's son), and Sir Francis Blake, 2nd baronet (his wife's kinsman). To this list must be added the names of three political agitators, John Wilkes (of the 'North Briton'), the Rev. Christopher Wyvill (Secretary and afterwards Chairman of the Yorkshire Association for shortening Parliaments and equalizing the Representation), and Major Cartwright (advocate of Annual Parliaments, Vote by Ballot, and Manhood Suffrage). He also met three of his Cornish neighbours, Richard Lovell Gwatkin of Killion, Edward Eliot, M.P. (who had made his wife's cousin, Edward Gibbon, Member for Liskeard), and Christopher Hawkins (who seems to have accompanied him up to town and to have acted as his host there). The Earl of Lisburne appears to have been out of town; but Temple saw

the Earl's brother General Vaughan several times. With two other more famous Generals he also had talks, James Oglethorpe (the founder of Georgia) and Pasquale Paoli (the Corsican Patriot); while he resumed or made acquaintance with three Bishops, Dr. Hurd of Worcester, Dr. Halifax of Gloucester, and Dr. Barnard of Killaloe. The ladies he saw were Mrs. and Miss Hawkins (Hawkins's mother and sister), Mrs. Bedford (Claxton's mother-in-law), Miss B. Stow (seemingly some relation of his wife's or mother's), Miss Palmer (Sir Joshua Reynolds's eldest niece, afterwards Countess of Inchiquin, and later Marchioness of Thomond), Miss Wilkes (the daughter to whom the 'Patriot' was so devoted), Miss Guest the pianist, and Lady Jerningham. He also called on the two Cornish magnates, Sir William Lemon, Bt., M.P., and the 4th Lord Clifford; but whether he actually saw either is doubtful. Lord Clifford indeed invited him to dinner; but an attack of the gout compelled his lordship to cancel the invitation. Such were the major and minor celebrities whom Temple met in London in May 1783; but of the conversation of this galaxy of talent he gives no account whatsoever. Nor does Boswell make any mention of Temple under this date in the *Life*; though (apparently) he saw Dr. Johnson three times in his company and repeated for his benefit that performance of getting drunk at the Duke of Montrose's which he had first given two years earlier. This omission is rendered the more piquant by the fact that Temple (see his list of disbursements) is now discovered to have accompanied Boswell back to Scotland and to have paid many of his friend's expenses on the journey. The new Laird of Auchinleck had evidently miscalculated the cost of his ten weeks' stay in town.

On this visit to London Temple seems to have gone to the theatre twice only, both times to see Mrs. Siddons at Drury Lane. On the first of these occasions—Saturday May 3rd—Genest fails to give the piece for the evening.

From the *Public Advertiser*, however, we gather that it was Nicholas Rowe's famous tragedy *Jane Shore*, with Mrs. Siddons in the title-rôle. On Tuesday, May 6th, Temple saw the great actress in *Isabella: or The Fatal Marriage*. But this was not Southerne's original play but an adaptation of it made by David Garrick.

In the second diary, as in the first, some of the dates are obviously incorrect. In all probability Temple was not caught *twice* in the rain on returning from a visit paid to Dr. Johnson. This may be gathered from the fact that in his note-book, the entry for *Wednesday 20th* is cancelled after 'statues', from 'then' to 'rain'. The passage is not actually erased; but the diarist, as if doubtful of its *locus*, has drawn a large cross over it. Again by writing *Tuesday 12* instead of *Tuesday 13* he has got all his dates wrong from Tuesday May 13th to Wednesday May 21st. He recovers the correct date with the entry for *Friday 23* and gets safely to *Friday 30*. Then comes the inexplicable entry *Friday 29*. Strangely enough Boswell makes exactly the same mistake in the *Life*, where he dates the last conversation he had with Dr. Johnson in 1783 as having occurred on *Friday, May 29*.¹ He says he set out for Scotland next morning, that is on Saturday, May 31st. But Temple declares that they started on Monday June 2nd.

There is a gap in Boswell's correspondence with Temple from November 3rd, 1780, to January 5th, 1787. Temple's diaries show, however, that in this period of six years, letters were regularly dispatched by him to his friend, and presumably were answered by Boswell, who indeed, writing from Edinburgh to Sir Joshua Reynolds on February 6th, 1784, says that 'Mr. Temple sent me very pleasing intelligence concerning the fair Palmeria', that is Miss Palmer. In his diary for this year (1784) Temple mentions one letter only written to James (that of June 17th) as against several addressed to David Boswell. But this need not be taken as

¹ A mistake which Dr. Birkbeck Hill fails to correct.

indicating any coolness between the Vicar and the Laird. David Boswell acted as broker, banker, and general factotum to Temple, sending him down everything from a parcel of books to note-paper, razors, and a tea-urn; and this relationship involved of necessity a frequent though probably not an intimate correspondence between the twomen. The letters written by James Boswell to Temple in 1781, 1782, 1783, 1784, 1785, and 1786 must have disappeared at Boulogne or in its vicinity, and were probably used as wrapping-paper for goods sold in Madame Noel's shop.

We do not know whether the property at Allerdean was Temple's own, bequeathed to him by his mother or by the Johnstons,¹ or whether it belonged to his wife. That is to say we cannot be sure whether the 'sister Mrs. Sarah Forster', to whom he paid over £600, was his own sister or his sister-in-law. I am inclined to believe that Mrs. Forster must have been Temple's wife's sister; for in the memoranda of the Rev. Charles Powlett's journals which his family have made I find under date of May 22nd, 1824, this entry: 'Account comes of death of Mrs. Forster, sister of Mrs. Temple.'

The country house at Blackadder, where Temple and Boswell dined together, belonged not to the latter but to a namesake of his, physician to the Nabob of Arcot, who had bought the property for £30,000.²

In November and December 1784 Temple wrote six letters to David Boswell about some business in India, sending him his power of attorney for India. About the same business he wrote also three letters to Captain Bilcliffe at Madras and forwarded through David Boswell letters to Mr. Duncan Monro, Mr. George Proctor, and Major Sydenham at Madras. On January 27th, 1786, he wrote to 'Mr. T. D. Boswell, Capt. Bilcliffe at Fort St. George'. On February 19th, 1788, he wrote to 'Mr. T. D. Boswell returning

¹ See James Raine's *North Durham* (1852).

² So Temple says in the letter to Mrs. Temple which he wrote in June or July 1783.

power of Attorney'. On June 18th of the same year he wrote to 'Mr. T. D. Boswell with power of Attorney to Mr. Allen for Mrs. de Castro to receive my brother's half pay from Government'. I cannot explain this business. 'My brother' is of course Robert Temple, a lieutenant on half pay, who shared his elder brother's rooms in the Inner Temple with Boswell in 1763. Seemingly he had gone to India. Who Mrs. de Castro was it is impossible to say. But Temple's diary for 1787 makes it fairly clear that 'Bob' was not the father of the boy and girl for whose future their uncle was so anxious in 1787 and 1788. The nephew, whom he wanted to get admitted to Christ's Hospital, and the niece (with an *accent*), whom he tried to settle as a governess or companion, appear to have been not Temples but Forsters, Mrs. Temple's nephew and niece.¹ This is proved, I think, by the entries in Temple's diary for November 15th and November 17th, 1787, in the latter of which the 'niece' seems to be revealed as Jenny Forster, a young woman in whose interest her uncle was writing to the Countess of Lisburne. All we know about her is that her father, the Rev. John Forster, was a clergyman living in Durham, and that her mother's maiden name had been Sarah Stow. In 1766 Sarah seems to have disapproved of her sister Anne's proposed marriage to W. J. Temple. In a letter (now destroyed) written in March 1766 Anne Stow informs Temple of her sister's opposition to their union.

The references which Temple makes in his diaries to his eldest son and namesake, William Johnston Temple, ensign in General Vaughan's (the 46th) regiment, are three only. The first occurs on March 12th, 1785, an entry in which 'William' is mentioned among a number of persons to whom letters have been written. The second is under date of

¹ For an account of the whole business and of the assistance in connexion with it which Boswell gave to Temple by direct effort and by advice see Professor Tinker's *Letters of James Boswell* (Clarendon Press), vol. ii, pp. 342, 343, 354, 367, or Thomas Seccombe's edition of *Letters of James Boswell to the Rev. W. J. Temple* (Sidgwick and Jackson), pp. 216, 217, 222, 238.

April 22nd of the same year: 'To William at Corke'. The third is contained in the entry for January 25th, 1787, and alludes to the youth's recent death, which seems to have taken place early in January. (Boswell's letter of condolence is dated January 5th, 1787.) A doubtful fourth entry occurs right at the end of the Diary for 1796.

In the autumn of 1785 Temple's eldest daughter Nancy seems to have been dispatched to a boarding school. Her father wrote letters to her on November 2nd, 12th, and 30th. His diary for 1786 contains five entries only; but one of these, that for February 18th, chronicles a letter sent to Nancy. Her public schooling appears to have ended with this year, when she was between fourteen and fifteen years old. In 1787 she commenced pupil and companion to her father. In the entry for Monday, October 22nd, we find: 'In the morning read Bossuet with Nancy. . . . After dinner walked with Nancy. . . . Nancy French.' Eight days later Nancy gave an early demonstration of that fondness for 'dissipation' which her father deplored with almost his latest breath. 'Languid with sitting up till near one', he enters under date of 30th, Tuesday, 'when my wife and daughter returned from the Assembly'. His wife's and daughter's determination to avail themselves of one of the few amusements within their reach appears to have annoyed rather than to have pleased Temple. Some eighteen months later he communicated his dissatisfaction to his bosom friend, with that singular disregard for domestic privacy which seems to have characterized his correspondence with Boswell. 'I like your sitting up and writing to me', declares Boswell on March 5th, 1789, 'when Mrs. Temple and your daughter were at the assembly. We are not *quite* young now'.

In the second note-book Temple's spelling of the names of persons continues to be worth watching. The Vicar of St. Gluvias seems to have been one of those men who never catch a name correctly the first time of hearing it and who even write it incorrectly when they are in possession of the

visiting card of their new acquaintance. (I don't know whether visiting cards were in use in the last two decades of the eighteenth century: I am taking it for granted.) In June 1783 he is in the north, engaged in winding up the Allerdeen estate and consequently meeting new people. On Tuesday, June 10th, he calls 'on Rumney'. On Sunday, June 22nd, he preaches 'at B[erwick] for Mr. Romney', who is thus revealed as a clergyman. On Wednesday, June 25th, he reports, 'Dined at Shirewood with . . . Acheson' and five other persons. On December 20th, he writes 'To Mr. Aitchison'. On January 8th, 1788, he writes 'To Revd. Mr. Aitchison'. On June 18th, 1783, he 'dined at Capt. Edmestons, present . . . Clerk' and six other guests. On Thursday June 26th, 'Clerk' has become 'Mr. Clarke'. And he is 'Clarke' in the entry for Saturday June 28th. On Tuesday July 1st, however, Temple 'dined with Mr. Clerk'. On May 8th, 1784, Temple writes a letter to 'Mr. Furley'. On May 27th he writes another letter to the same gentleman, now called 'Revd. Mr. Furly'.

SECOND DIARY, 1783-5, 1787-8

1783

January

2d. Curate and Churchwardens dined with me. In the evening met Mr. Hawkins at Ennis.

3d. Dined at the Turnpike meeting with Sir F. Basset, Mr. Gwatkin, Beauchamp &c.

6. Met at Truro about the Petition to Parliament.

8th. Mr. Carden and Capt. Mukins dined with us.

9th. Wrote to Mr. Wyvill, Mr. Baron and Mr. Lake. Dined at Capt. Wauchope's.

15. Dined at Falmouth with Mr. Webber, about Petition to Parliament.

16. To Mr. Forster.

20th. Dined at Truro, about the meeting and Parl: Reform.

22. Offered the Petition for Subscription at Falmouth. Dined at Mr. Webbers, tea at Mr. Nowells with Mr. Beauchamp and Mr. Gwatkin.

24th. At Penryn with Mr. Gwatkin and Mr. Richards. Woodhull's Euripides.

February

Papers. Shakespeare.

6th. To Revd. Mr. Wyvill.

8th. To Revd. Mr. Carlyon.

10th. To C. Hawkins, Esq^{re}, Lower Grosvenor Street, London.

10th. To the printers of the Sherborne and Plymouth Papers.

16th. Confessions de Rousseau.

22. To Mr. Boswell. To Mr. Hawkins.

27th. To Mr. Hawkins.

March

10th. Dined at Mrs. Gwennaps; came home much tired.

15th. Dined at Roscrow.

16th. Drank tea at Mr. Webbers.

19th. Mr. and Mrs. Gwatkin and Mr. Martyn and Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Beauchamp and Miss Burching and Mr. Harris and Capt. Mukins dined with us.

22d. Set out for Launceston to preach as Chaplain at the Assizes. Met the Sheriff Mr. Hawkins that night, Mr. Rashleigh, Mr. P. Vyvyan, Mr. Knill.

23. Walked to Launceston castle and to Warington. The grounds about the castle tolerably broken and about Warington, with fine wood.

24th. Sunday.

25th. Monday. Dined with the Judges and Grand Jury: nothing past to amuse.

Tuesday 26. Dined with the S(heriff) and Grand Jury, who addressed the King on the Peace. Learnt the characters of several of the principal gentlemen of the County. Drank tea with Mr. Bedford, vicar of Launceston.

27th. Set out with Mr. Hawkins. We breakfasted at Mr. Vyvyans at Trem, a man of parts and wit. Dined at Bodmin with Mr. Rashleigh &c. Came at night to Trewithen Mr. Hawkins seat; staid there thursday and friday. Paid a visit to Mr. Gregor, a neighbour of Mr. H. Notwithstanding the uniformity of *home*, still preferable to any where else: more satisfaction, more enjoyment. A large acquaintance only adapted to waste ones time. Met at the Assizes an old fellow collegian, Serjeant Gross, whom at Trinity Hall we

used to consider as much below us in Literary progress. Hope to have more conversation with him at Bodmyn. Shall lose a week by accompanying Mr. H. on this occasion. Would not undertake it again to gratify any one. Bishop Watson's Pamphlet about the Clergy. A moderate and sensible essay. Earl of Stairs &c. Find I cannot have any

enjoyment from home: yet Mr. H's conversation is very pleasing: a most amiable person. You have nothing for it but retirement and study. Adhere to this. Cannot bear the thought of this necessary journey to London and the North.

Saturday 29th. Mr. H. rode with me to Truro: we called on Mr. J. Carlyon. Returned to Gluvias to dinner and Mr. H. to Trewithen.

April

Tuesday 1. Capt. Mukins dined with us.

2d. At Mr. Rawe's Christening.

3d. Drank tea at Roscrow. To Mr. Nicholls and Mr. Coryton.

8th. Dined at Capt. M. Drank tea at Mr. Hodges.

9th. Wrote to Mr. Boswell.

7th. Col. Rodd and Mr. Tremayne drank tea with us.

13. Drank tea at Mrs. Gwennaps. Use and Abuse of Parliament. Historical Essay on the English Constitution. Much disappointed in these books. Ill written and not so as to interest. To Mr. Forster.

15th. Drank tea at Mr. Browns.

16th. To Mr. Baron. Drank tea at Mr. F. Wauchope's at Flushing.

22. Budock parish meeting, dined there.

24th. Tea at Lady Vyvyans. To Mrs. Nicholson, Mr. Willoby, Miss Stow and Mr. Gwatkin.

(All the entries from January 2nd to April 24th inclusive are made in the first note-book.)

1783

28 April. Set out for London and the North. To Trewithen (Mr. Hawkins's) to dinner and where I slept.

29 Tuesday. To Callington.

30 Wednesday. To Exeter.

May

1 Thursday. To Salisbury.

2 Friday. We arrived in town. Drank tea at Mrs. Hawkins's.

3 Saturday. Called on Nicholls, dined and went to see Mrs. Siddons with him.

4th. Boswell called on me. Left cards at Sir W^m Lemons and Mr. Eliots. Walked in Kensington gardens with Mr., Mrs. and Miss Hawkins. Returned with them in their carriage to dinner. Left Letter and card at Mr. Douglas's in Harley Street, Cavendish Square. Mr. Strange the engraver and Mr. Carr called here in the morning. Met in the street David, brother to Mr. Boswell, who had resided several years at Valencia in Spain. In the evening Mr. H. read Sir F. B.'s Pamphlet to me. Badly written: nothing new or ingenious.

Monday 5th. Do not find myself comfortable in this great city. Distracted by the noise and confusion. Can not compose my thoughts. Boswell, Mr. Hawkins and I walked to Knightsbridge and called on Mr. Wyvill. Did not find him at home. Met him on our return in the street. Dined in Grosvenor Street with Mr. H. B. Carr and Dr. Gem of Paris. Not much amused. In the evening went to Ranelagh with B. and H. Introduced to Mr. Burke. Met Gwatkin, Stackhouse.

Tuesday 6th. Called on Mr. Langton. Dined at B(?'s) and went to see Mrs. Siddons in *Isabella* in the fatal Marriage.

Wednesday 7th. Breakfasted with Mr. Jerningham. Called on Nicholls. Mr. D. Boswell called on me. *7th.* Wrote to Mrs. T. Find myself incapable of doing any thing: should never go from home: no enjoyment elsewhere.—Went into the city about the Bill.—Met Gen: Vaughan at the Mount Coffee-house.

Thursday 8th. Boswell breakfasted with us. Mr. Douglas called. We paid a visit to General Oglethorpe, a surprising character at his age. What he said of the present state of our country, not to the purpose: though near 90 quoted several of the Latin poets. Left my name at the Bishop of Worcester's. Called on Sir F. Blake. Dined at Lady Jerninghams with Mr. Jerningham and Mr. Owen Cambridge. The latters

political notions absurd: something indistinct and rambling in his conversation. Lady J. a fine old woman. After coffee Mr. J. took me to hear Miss Guest play (the first performer of the age) and Miss Cantaloupe sing. She plaid some of her own compositions just published: highly entertained. Highly nervous for want of riding and good air and composure.—Boswell called.

Friday 9. Breakfasted with Mr. David Boswell. Went to see the Exhibition. Called on Miss B. Stow. Paid a visit to Dr. Johnson with Mr. Langton, Boswell and Hawkins. Dined at Mr. Dillys with Mr. Sheridan, Maj: Cartwright, Mr. Scott, Mr. Reed, Mr. Boswell &c. Called at Mr. Claxton's.

Saturday 10. Boswell and Claxton breakfasted with us. Long conversation with Wyvill. Dined at Mrs. Bedfords with Mr. and Mrs. Claxton. In the evening went with them in their coach to Shirley in Surrey 12 miles.

Sunday 11. At Church &c.

Monday 12. We took an airing in the evening to Haling near Croydon, Mrs. Hammonds.

Tuesday 12. In the morning to Clayhill, Mr. Kings in Kent, a beautiful scene, a knoll, finely wooded: the walks contrived to shew fine distant views through openings; the shape of the grounds very beautiful: the ornaments have too great affectation of rusticity. The possessor an ingenious man, very rich, and the author of observations on Castles.

Wednesday 13. Claxton carried me in his coach to Croydon. Came to town. Dined at Sir F. Blakes. The Collingwoods there and a Mr. Wilson excelling in electricity. Sold £500 3 pr cent. Consol. at 67 & $\frac{1}{2}$. A good author, the enjoyments of one's own family, a morning ride, an evening walk infinitely superior to London amusements and society.

Thursday 14th. Went to dine at Shirley with B. and H.

Friday 15th. Breakfasted with Mr. Jerneingham. Called at Bishop of Glousters, General Vaughans, Mr. Douglas's, Lord Cliffords. Went with Mr. J. to see Jervas's painted

glass. Dined at Lady J's. The Miss Cambridges and Miss Harris came in and drank tea.

Saturday 16. Mr. Douglas, General Vaughan and Mr. Forster called. The Bishop of Worcester called and sat half an hour. Disapproved of the present innovating spirit. Censured the prolixity and want of precision in the Scots writers: commended Beattie: allowed merit in Gibbon. Was very pleasing and friendly. Dined with Mr. Hawkins. Drank tea at Mr. Forsters. Wrote to Mrs. Temple.

Sunday 17th. Called on Mr. Langton. Heard a bad sermon at St. Georges church. Dined at Mr. Hawkins's. The Stackhouses and the Stephens came to tea. Not amused. Nothing to call conversation. How insipid are such meetings.

Monday 18th. House of Commons: pleased with Burke. Dined at Mr. Wilkes's with Mr. Boswell. Wilkes ill; his daughter entertained us; we then called on Dr. Johnson and were taken in the rain before we got home.

Tuesday 19th. Dined at Richmond Lodge (Col: Stuarts) with Mr. Boswell, Gen: Dalling, Mr. Ross, Capt. Aberdeen, Mr. Forster. A charming park, finely wooded, and fine water, but the grounds rather flat. Much wine and little agreeable conversation. No pleasure in such society. Gave a strange idea of the house of Commons.

Wednesday 20th. Went with Boswell, Sir Francis Blake, Bishop of Killaloe, Mr. Hawkins &c to see Mr. Townlys fine collection of statues, then to the house of Commons. Obligated to come away in the middle of Burkes speech to dine with Mr. Wilkes, who was ill, but Miss Wilkes entertained us: then to Dr. Johnsons: came home in the rain. Then to General Paolis to dinner: a lively, easy, sensible man: then to tea with Mr. Langton's, Dr. Johnson there. Then to Ranelagh. Met there Mr. Eliot, Mr. and Miss Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. Stackhouse and Mr. Gwatkin.

Thursday. Went to the House of Lords to hear Boswell: the cause put off. Dined disagreeably at a Coffee-house. Drank tea at Mr. Stranges, the engraver, his wife a talkative

pleasant woman. The Bishop of Gloucester called and sat half an hour with me, the day before. Wrote to my wife: heartily tired of London.

Friday 23. Boswell called on us. Went to Stockdales. Met T. Shaftoe. Intended dining with Lord C., ill of the gout. Jerningham.—Behind New Church. Exhibition.

Saturday 24. Mr. D. Boswell breakfasted with us, and Capt. Oake. Called on Mr. Douglas. We walked from 11 to near four. Bought silk for 3 gowns, stockings &c. Dined at a Coffee house very disagreeably. Met Mr. Jerningham. Miserable here. Called at Nicholls's not at home. Tea at the Mount. Met there with General Vaughan; promises, if he goes to Canada, to serve Mr. Forster. While I was writing to my wife at home, Boswell came in intoxicated from the Duke of Montroses: had his pocket picked of his gold watch. Drank coffee with me. I wrote to my wife. Wrote to Francis.

Sunday 25. Gave an account of every thing so far to my wife. No pleasure here. Nothing but noise and madness. O for my wife and quiet parsonage! Breakfasted with Mr. Jerningham and Nicholls. Called on Boswell. Went to Church. B¹ irregular in his conduct and manners, selfish, indelicate, thoughtless, no sensibility or feeling for others who have not his coarse and rustick strength and spirits. Sorry I came to town to meet him. Detaining me here to no purpose. Seems often absurd and almost mad I think. No composure or rational view of things. Years do not improve him. Why should I mortify myself to stay for him? Dined at Mr. Douglas's. Mr. Sherborne there, Mrs. Grant; tolerable amused. Boswell came to us in the evening in his usual ranting way and staid till 12, drinking wine and water glass after glass.

Monday 26. The great extent of London makes visits or business very inconvenient to me. Never wish to be here without a carriage. Neither strength nor spirits to run about here. Should stay at home and be content. How provoking

it is to take a long walk and then not find the person you want. No attachments here. Every one is indifferent to another. Neither Literature nor any thing appears of consequence. Wrote to my wife; walked to the Museum. (Saw) Mr. Maty. Then to Holborn. Home. Dined disagreeably. Fr. Reading not to-night. Tea at Coffee house. Came home with Mr. H.

Tuesday 27. Called on Boswell and on Nicholls. Dined at L^y Jerningham's. Went to Pantheon: an elegant, magnificent building.

Wednesday 28. Breakfasted with Mr. Douglas; walked with him till three and bought several things. Dined at Gen: Paoli's with Boswell, staid till nine, much good conversation with the General. Wrote to Mr. Wichell, Mrs. Hughes, Francis.

Thursday 29. Called on Mr. Jerningham: on Mr. Nicholls. Dined with Mr. Hawkins. Slept at Mr. Dillys. To my wife.

Friday 30. Breakfasted at Mr. Dillys. Set out in post-chaise with Mr. Boswell for South hill in Bedfordshire, Mr. Dillys. Dined there and staid till Monday morning. Called on Mr. Smith the clergyman.

Friday 29. Came to Southill to dinner. Next day dined at Bedford at Mr. Costins. Tea at Mr. Theed's. Hock at Mr. Palmers. (Met) Major Vaux. Good eating and drinking but little conversation. Pleasant drive home.

Sunday June 1st. Church. To see Chicksands, Sir G. Osbornes.¹ Wrote to my wife, to Mrs. N. Mr. Mrs. and Miss Smith drank tea and supt with us.

Monday 2. Began our journey. Arrived at York on Tuesday 3. Saw Mr. Burgh there; carried us to his house; shewed us his drawings and paintings; a lively ingenious man.

Wednesday 4th. At Newcastle.

Thursday 5th. At Berwick.

¹ Dorothy Osborne's home, Chicksands Priory, still, despite Macaulay, in the possession of the Osborns.

Friday 6th. Went in the morning to see Allerdeen. Mr. Forster dined with us.

Saturday 7th. Called on Capt. Terrot, Mrs. Compton, Miss Stow. Stockdale dined with us.

Sunday 8th. Dined at Mr. (and) Mrs. Finchs. Tea at Mr. Forsters.

Monday 9th. Rode to dinner to Blackadder, Mr. Boswells.
10. To Mr. Hawkins. Dined at home. Terrot called. Called on Rumney, Mr. Gray. Tea at Miss Douglas's.

Wednesday 11th. Dined at my sisters.

Thursday 12. At Hutton. Mr. P. Ridpath. Wrote to my wife.

Friday 13th. Wrote to Mr. Claxton and Mr. Boswell.

Saturday 14th. A Mr. Nesbit dined with us. Conversation with him about the farm. Wrote to my wife.

Sunday 15. Tea with Miss Stow. Never think of going from home again. Incapable of business. Cannot bear general company. Nothing to amuse. Shall not have resolution to stay here any longer. Try to produce something worthy of notice. Build your study, buy books, enlarge y^r parlour: if removed, no matter. Cannot go to Boswell: for what purpose?

Monday 16. Afternoon at Allerdeen. At Mrs. Redheads.

Berwick. 17th June 1783. In the presence of Edward Willoby, Attorney and The Revd. Mr. James Acheson, Minister of the Low Meeting House, paid to Mr. John Forster and my sister Mrs. Sarah Forster, £600 being the remainder of her fortune secured upon Allerdeen.

18th. Dined at Capt. Edmestons, present, Mr. Forster, Burn, Clerk, Fenwick, Acheson, Wood, Forster jun: In the morning was at Allerdeen viewing it with Mr. Nesbit.

Thursday, 19. Took a view of Allerdeen with Mr. Willoby and Hall: dined at Mr. Willobys. The Halls and Mr. Clerk present. To my dear wife.

Friday 20. At Hutton with P. Ridpath; called on Mr. Stow at Gainslaw.

Saturday 21. Dined with Miss Stow. Visits to Mr. Forster and Terrot.

Sunday 22. Preached at B. for Mr. Romney.

Monday 23. Rode out: dined with Mr. Hall.

Tuesday 24. Viewed Allerdeen with Mr. Tibbet and Mr. Marshall. Articles of agreement.

Wednesday 25. Dined at Shirewood with Mr. Hall, Bell, Willoby, Marshall, Acheson, Tibbet. Agreed with the widow to quit the farm. Find I neither like business nor company. Sitting so long after dinner fatigues one to death. Nothing like exercise, books and one's own family.—The North not tolerable till July and August.

Thursday 26. Wrote to Mrs. Temple, Mr. Claxton and Boswell. Dined at Mr. Stows at Gainslaw with P. Ridpath, Mr. Acheson and Mr. Killoch. Wrote to my dear wife. In the evening at Capt. Edmestons, with Major Jaques and his officers, Mr. Clarke, Mrs. Skinner, Grexson, Lambert, Edmeston. Must get away next week.

Friday 27th. Mr. Ridpath at my Aunts.

Saturday 28th. Dined at Mr. Forsters, Burn, Halls, Stow, Willoby, Clarke, Romer, Lambert, Jaques.

Sunday 29. At Capt. Terrots.

Monday 30. At Capt. Edmestons.

Tuesday July 1st. At Ord. Articles with Tibbet and Thompson. Dined with Mr. Clerk. Wrote to my dearest wife.

Wednesday 2. Looking at Papers. Dined at home. Tea at Mrs. Comptons.

Thursday 3d. Looking over Papers with Mr. Nicholson. Dined at home. Called on Mr. Romney, Skinner, Stow.

Friday July. Papers. Rode out. Dined at home. Tea at Miss Douglas's. Quite unfit for settling accounts &c. Wrote to Mr. Boswell.

Saturday 5th July. Signed the agreement. Dined at home. Wrote to my wife.

Sunday 6th. Preached: dined at home. Tea with Mrs. Skinner.

July 1783—January 1784

45

Monday 7th. Wrote to Mrs. Pope, Nicholls, D. Boswell.

Thursday 17th. Exeter. Bishop.

Friday 18th. Hawkins. Mamhead.

Saturday 19. Hawkins. Bishop. Mr. Moore.

Sunday 20th. Bishop. Mr. Moore. Mrs. Hawkins.

Monday 21st. Set out from Exeter. Got to Bodmyn.

Tuesday 22. At Trewithen.

Thursday. Arrived at my own Vicarage and to my dear wife and children: after an absence of 12 weeks.

September 13. Dined at Gwennap at Mr. Hoblyns.

18th. Perfect. 1. Humour and Politeness. 2. Sensibility.
3. Superstition. 4. Ballance of Human Affairs.

*

1. Nobility. 2. Sedition. 3. Parliament. 3. Despotism.

*

Rise and Decline of Papal or Modern Rome
&

Sermons and Miscellaneous Essays

Sept. 18. Went on board an India ship. Tea at Mr. T. Gwennaps. For Essay on a Ballance in human affairs,

Voltaire
Rousseau
Bolingbroke
Warburton

}

December 20th. To Mr. Aitchison.

22. To Mr. Douglas & to Mr. D. Boswell. Mr T. To Francis.

1784

January

3d. To Mr. J. Nicholson.

8. W^m Young, Bill wharf Dowgate, London. Capt. Pollard of the Furly.

10th. To Mr. T. D. Boswell, Thanet Place, Temple Barr, London.

24th. To Mr. T. D. Boswell with a power of Attorney

to buy and receive Dividends in the Three per Cent.
Consolidated B. Annuities.

March

- 5th.* To Mr. Willoby.
15. To Revd. Mr. Baron.

April

- 1st.* To Mr. T. D. Boswell.
3d. To Mr. J. Claxton.
23. To Mr. Willoby.
24th. Still can do little or nothing here for want of books;
the great obstacle to acquisitions in Science.

May

- 8th.* To Mr. Furley.
22. To Mr. Willoby.
29. To Rev. Mr. Furly.

June

- 9th.* To the Revd. Mr. Symis.

Mr. Macgilvray passed some days with me: a pleasing, agreeable man, but such are my habits that any one in the house is a great interruption and oppresses my spirits. Long conversation distracts my head, and makes me quite unhappy. Must be content to live with and by myself. Though often wishing for conversation, yet always disappointed in the pleasure I expect from it. No enjoyment but from reading, air and exercise.

- 9th.* To Mr. Baron.
12th. To Mr. Willoby. To Mr. Ridpath. To Revd. Mr.¹
14th. To Rev. Mr. Garrat. To Mr. Douglas.
17th. To Mr. J. and Mr. T. D. Boswell.
24th. To Mr. Hawkins. To Mr. Baron.

July

- 1.* To Mr. Smerdon, to Mr. Macgilvray.

¹ A blank space has been left for filling in the name.

October

Saturday 16th. To Mr. Carrington with a draught.

18. To Mr. T. D. Boswell and Mr. Hawkins and Mrs. Forster.

23. To Mr. Hawkins, Boswell D, Claxton, Nicholls.

25th. Mr. T. D. Boswell with £150. To Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Baron.

Nov. 1st. To Mr. T. D. Boswell with a power of Attorney to sell £500 B Stock.

November

4th. To Mr. T. D. Boswell, General Vaughan.

13th. To Mr. Willoby, Mrs. Nicholson.

8th. To Mr. T. D. Boswell with Power of Attorney for India.

19th. Dined at Capt. Wauchopes.

20th. To Mr. D. Boswell and Capt. Bilcliffe at Madrass.

22. To Mr. Smerdon and William. To Mr. Robinson with a Draught on Hearne and Treeve for six guineas for six years Subscription to the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge.

29th. To Mr. T. D. Boswell and Capt. Bilcliffe at Madrass.

Dec. 2d. To Mr. T. D. Boswell (Mr. Duncan Monro, Mr. George Proctor, Major Sydenham at Madrass) under Mr. Hawkins's cover.

16. To Mr. T. D. Boswell and Capt. Bilcliffe.

1785

January

8th. To Mr. T. D. Boswell. To Mr. Willoby, Mr. Forster, Mr. J. Boswell.

27th. To General Vaughan, Mr. Willoby, Mrs. Nicholson, Mr. P. Ridpath.

M. Dusaulx De Passion du jeu.

Pensees morales de diverses auteurs Chinois par M. Levesque.

February

- 3d. To Mr. Willoby, to Mr. Tibbet, to General Vaughan.
 7th. To Mr. Hawkins.
 10th. To Mr. Hawkins, Mr. P. Vyvyan.
 11th. To Mr. Douglas with £18 17., Mr. T. D. Boswell,
 Revd. Mr. J. Carlyon, Mr. Price.
 14th. Mr. Jeffreys, Mr. Willoby, Revd. Mr. Wyvill, Mr.
 Hawkins.
 17th. Mr. Willoby.
 Œuvres Choiesies de Bossuet par Abbé Sauvigny. 8 vols.
 8vo.
 Discours sur le Luxe &c par Abbé Gentry. 8vo.
 Histoire Generale de la Chine. 12 vol^s 8vo. 1784.
 Aikin's Calendar of Nature 12 mo. 1784. Johnson.
 21. Revd. Mr. Forster, Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Hichins.
 24th. To Mr. Hawkins, Ridpath, Willoby, Douglas.
 28. To Mr. Trelawny, Mr. T. D. Boswell.

March

3. To Mr. Forster, my sister, Mr. Hall.
 5th. Revd. Mr. Baron.
 7th. Mr. Witchells, Frank, Mr. Urry.
 12. To Gen. Vaughan, William, Cap^t Brown, Mr.
 Thomas, Mr. Leverton.
 14th. Mr. Jeffreys, Mr. Willoby.
 17th. To Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Jeffreys.
 21. To Mr. Claxton, Gen: Vaughan.
 24. To my sister, Revd. Mr. Harrington.
 26th. To Mr. Hawkins, Mr. P. Ridpath.
 31. To Gen: Vaughan.

April

- 2d. To Lord Lisburne, Gen: Vaughan, Mr. Clarke.
 9th. Mr. Jeffreys, Willoby.
 7th. Mr. T. D. Boswell, Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Forster, Mr.
 J. Boswell, Mr. T. D. Boswell.

- 9th. James Wheble.
11th. To Gen: Vaughan, Mrs. Forster.
28. To Mr. J. Boswell. Mr. T. Witchell with £13. 15. 0.
To G. Martin, Esqr.
22. Gen: Vaughan. To William at Corke.
25. To Mr. Claxton, Frank, Mr. Hawkins, Mrs. Hughes.
28. Mr. J. and Mr. T. D. Boswell.

May

9. Mr. Jerningham, Capt. Clarke, Mr. Hawkins, Bishop of Gloucester. To Mr. J. Carrington with 15. 7. 6.
16th. To Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Claxton, Frank.
19th. To Mr. Boswell, Bishop of Exeter, General Vaughan, Revd. Mr. Whitaker.
23. To Mr. Hawkins, Revd. Mr. P. Ridpath.

June

- 2^d. To Mr. Hawkins, Mrs. Forster, Mr. Willoby, Frank.
4th. To Revd. Mr. Whitaker.
9th. Mr. J. Boswell, Mr. T. D. Boswell, Mr. Hawkins, Bp. of Exeter, Mr. Woolcombe.

July

- 4th. Mr. Baron.
23. To Mr. Willoby, Mr. Jerningham, Frank, Sister, Miss Stow.
29th. To Mr. Woolcombe, Mr. Hawkins.

August

2. Mr. Bailey.
9. Mr. Hawkins.
10. Revd. Mr. Webber.
Tea at Flushing: those silly visits engross a whole evening. Rarely to be made. The oppressive heat is now almost over and the season of Study returning: have two necessary dinners to give, which shall serve for a long time.
To Mr. R. Forster, Mrs. F., Mr. Willoby.

So large a Family oppresses my spirits and distracts my attention. Difficult to think intensely and watch the flowing of invention with such interruptions and impediments.

15th. Mr. Willoby, Mrs. Forster, Mr. R. Forster.

13th. Octavius baptized, Mr. & Miss Hawkins Sponsors.

16th. To Lord and Lady Lisburne and General Vaughan.

19th. At Trewithen.

21, 22, 23. At Trewithen; large party there. Not amused and time lost. Nothing less interesting than the conversation of Country Gentlemen. Seldom extends beyond their own fields—acres.

27th. To Mr. Hawkins.

29. To Mr. Willoby, Mr. T. D. Boswell, Dr. Harvy.

September

2d. To Mr. J. and Mr. D. Boswell, Mr. Claxton, Mr. Mason, Mr. Nicholls.

9th. To Mr. Ridpath, Mr. T. D. Boswell, Mr. Baron.

12. Set out for Mamhead Lord Lisburne's.

Agreeably entertained. Returned 26th.

28th. To Mr. J. Hawkins at Berlin.

October

3d. To Mr. Jerningham.

11th. To Gen. Vaughan, Major Lighton, Mr. Meyrick, Mr. T. D. Boswell.

14th. To Mr. J. Boswell, Mr. Nicholls, Lady Lisburne.

17. Commis: Martyn, Mr. Bayly, Francis.

31. Mr. Forster.

November

1. Mr. Bayly, Francis.

2d. Lady Lisburne, General Vaughan, Nancy, Mr. Coffin, Miss Stow.

11th. To Mrs. Forster.

12th. Revd. Mr. Forster, Lord Lisburne, General Vaughan, Nancy.

November 1785—October 1787. 51

29. Mr. Hawkins at Lisbon, Mr. J. Hawkins at Berlin, Mr. Forster, Mr. Baron.

30th. Earl of Lisburne, Mr. T. D. Boswell, Nancy.

December

27th. To Revd. Mr. Forster.

30th. To Bell, bookseller. To the Clergyman at Belfast, Ireland, about Mrs. King's husband. <To> Revd. Mr. P. Ridpath.

1786

January

13th. <To> Mess^{rs} Rivington, Mr. Hawkins at Freyberg im Erzgeberge en Allemagne.

February 10th. To Mr. J. Hawkins.

18th. To Lord Lisburne, General Vaughan, Miss Stow, Mr. Willoby, Nancy.

27th. <To> Mr. Boswell, Mr. T. D. Boswell, Capt. Bilcliffe at Fort St. George.

March

11th. To Mr. Bayly.

1787

25 January. Ought to proceed hunting for game in the Memoires de l'Academie. Not recovered my spirits since the loss of my son: depressed and weighs me down: yet it is no time to trifle now. Superstition, Humour, Sensibility, Balance,—Despotism, Parliament, Nobility, Sedition.—Papal Rome.—Divinity.—What I read now must be with a view to some useful purpose; not for amusement.

<This entry is made in the first note-book.>

16 October. To Mr. Claxton.

17th. To the Revd. Mr. Flamank.

Diary October

21. Sunday. Intend in future to keep a more exact account in what manner I pass my hours.

22. *Monday*. In the morning read Bossuet with Nancy, Rambler. Rode with my wife. After dinner walked with Nancy. Read in the Adventurer. After tea, Spectator. Nancy French. John Latin Grammar. Mrs. T. read Hume to us. Much set down but little done.

23. *Tuesday*. I think to-day was just passed as yesterday. Tedious to minute what contains so little variety.

24th. *Wednesday*. This day passed as yesterday.

25. *Thursday*. Do.

26. *Friday*. Amusing myself in Walpole's Anecdotes, Spectator &c. Dissatisfied at trifling my days away in this idle manner. It is my duty to compose sermons and to think of the good of my family, and how to emerge out of this obscurity.

27. *Saturday*. Needless to improve a house further in w^{ch} I do not wish to continue. Almost regret I ever thought of building a study. The workmen quite weary out one's patience: I know not when it will be finished. Can complete nothing for want of books, and information. Read in Jortin, Notes to Shakespeare. Have no right to read merely for amusement: for the future should read only such books as have a reference to my papers. On Monday will begin Lettres de Cachet and go on with the Bible and Gr. Test.—Between dinner and tea, Sermons or Letters.

29. *Monday*. Interrupted. Read in the Evening Jortins four Charges.

30th. *Tuesday*. In the morning read in Beattie's 4to volume.—Find I cannot yet begin Lettres de Cachet &c. Languid with sitting up till near one, when my wife and daughter returned from the Assembly.

November

1. *Thursday*. In the morning, as usual read Bossuet with Nancy. Dipt into Seneca, Shakespeare. Rode out. Afternoon called on Mr. Crowgey. Evening Boys, Shakespeare, wrote to Brocklesby. From 9 my wife read Hume to us.

2. *Friday*. When I write to Mr. D. Boswell, the other vol^s of Garnier hist: de France, Baretti's Introduction and Italian Grammar, Aristophanes, Plautus, Johnson's Letters, Pills, Cain. What Mrs. T. wants: 2 quire of French marble-paper, razors.

3. *Saturday*. Read in Shakespeare and Commentary, or Notes. Cannot bear to find my time passed away to so little purpose. Unless I return to my former path shall not be able to bear a review of it. I am now near 47¹ and how little have I done.

Wednesday. To Mrs. Terrot, Mrs. Aitchison, Mr. P. Ridpath.

15. To Mr. Willoby about Mrs. Forsters family.

17. To Lady Lisburne about Jenny Forster. To Mr. Hawkins. I cannot well tell what I am doing or reading; I think nothing to any good purpose.

18. *S*. Were I near books I w^d not despair of producing something that w^d both instruct—inform and amuse—entertain: but how are such a number to be consulted unless by a considerable residence in Town.

December

6th. *Birthday*. When my study is finished, s^d do nothing more to the house.—I do not even wish to continue here.

13. *Thursday*. Cannot say I am doing any thing worth recollecting. Reading French with Nancy, Jortin and I cannot tell what. O the lapse of Time. 48th birthday.

17. *Monday*. To Mr. T. D. Boswell about Frank's bill and stock. A series of adventures in the course of a Voyage up the Red sea. 3rd edition. 12 Shillings in B: by Eylis Irwin Esq: printed for John Dodsley Pall Mall.

1788

January

7th. To T. D. Boswell.

¹ A mistake for 48.

8th. To Revd. Mr. Aitchison. The Abbé Boldoni's. Italian Grammar in usum Delphini.

15. To James Boswell Esqr.

31. To J. Boswell Esqr. he desiring £200—under cover to J. B. Garforth Esqr. M.P.

February

Original Letters in the reigns of Henry 6th, Edward 4th &c. 2 vols. 4to. 1. 16—by Sir John Fenn.

3. To Mr. J. Boswell. (inquiring about)

Warburton's works, 7 vols.

Bp. Watson's Tracts, one vol.

• Mason's Whitehead's Life.

Lardners Works.

Sharp's Rubrick, 2^d editⁿ.

Observations on modern gardening.

Marivaux. Esprit des Journeaux.

Muratori, Annali.

9th. To Mr. J. and Mr. T. D. Boswell.—Froissart, Daciers edit. Leland.

12th. To Mr. J. and Mr. T. D. Boswell.

16. Secker. Theorie des Jardins par M. Moret 8vo., pages 397, Paris, 1783.

Poeme sur les Jardins par Abbé de Lisles. Wheatley. Sonneral. 8vo. 3 vol^s.

18. To Boswell. To my sister.

19. To Mr. T. D. Boswell returning power of Attorney.

20. To the Revd. Mr. Baron. To Revd. Mr. J. Carrington with T. Croggin's draught on J. Cox for £15. 8. 0. *Penknife*. Madon's Garden with Burgh's Notes. Fresnoy. Bp. of Glocesters Sermon. The Sermons on the Slave trade.

March

5. Still trifling. Du Tott and the answer. Bell's Shakespeare.

10. To Mr. J. and Mr. T. D. Boswell.

26. To Mr. T. D. Boswell.

April

14. To Mr. J. and Mr. T. D. Boswell.

22. To Mr. J. Boswell.

May

To Mr. Clarke.

Englands Heroical Epistles by Michael Drayton with Notes and Illustrations. J. Johnson. No. 72, St. Paul's. small 8vo. 4s. sewed.

Spectator with Notes and Illustrations. 8 vol^s. 12mo. £1. 1s. 6.

30. To Mr. Willoby, Mr. Baron.

June, 3d. To Mr. T. D. Boswell.

10. To Mr. James Boswell.

18. To Mr. T. D. Boswell with power of Attorney to Mr. Allen for Mrs. de Castro to receive my brothers half pay from Government.

19. Morning, Garnier, Atterbury. French and Italian with Nancy.

24. To General Vaughan. Discourses on the Four Gospels by Dr. Townson. 2^d edit. 4s. 6d. B., Payne.

30. Garnier's *histoire de France* in the Evenings.

To Mr. T. D. Boswell, with second power of attorney to be transmitted to India, Mr. Proctor leaving that country.

July 1st. To Mr. T. D. Boswell. To Comm: Martin.

3. In the morning, head ach; sermon of Atterbury. Workpeople. Nancy.

9th. Hope to compose always part of the morning and to read only in the afternoon and evening. Samuel Hood Esqr, Captain of his Majesty's Ship, *Thisbe*, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

15. My spirits depressed, nervous, no hopes of a more eligible situation. No libraries within reach. *Tableau General de l'empire Othoman* par M. de Mouradgea D'ohsson Vol. 1. R. Folio. Paris. Robinsons London £7. 7.

18th. Dined at Roscrow. Not much amused. Repletion.

Lost this day strangely. Do not think Garnier equal to Velly and Vellaret.

19. Visitation Court at Falmouth where I dined &c. This day also lost. A little of Garnier in the Evening.

20 *Sunday*. Histoire de Charlemagne. 4 vol^s. in 12^{mo}, 1782.

August

14. In the morning rode with Capt. Burnet to Trenardreva.

September

1st. *M*. Did little or nothing to-day but ride with Nancy and Capt. Burnet (a great grandson of the Bishop, quartered here) and read a few pages of Garnier in the evening. Miserable trifling!

T. 2d. A Master Key to Popery. 3 vol. small 8^{vo}. Very difficult to be found as they were all bought up by the Catholic priests.

Gray's Tour. 2s. Kearsley. Wheatley on Shakespeare. 2s. Payne.

Mosenau's powder for Razors in Oxford Road, nearly opp. to Bond Street. Name on the door.

Sept. 10th. C. came in the evening. Happy to see him after so long a separation. Little altered in his looks except his hair and teeth: stouter. Agreeable to recollect the passages of early youth with an old friend.

11th. Capt. Burnets family dined with us.

12. Amusing Clarke.

13. 14. 15. Walked to Falmouth to view the packet.

16. Burnet family, Croaker and Brock drank tea with us.

17. Nothing. To Lord and Lady Lisburne.

18. Intended going to Boconnoc, but prevented by the rain. Drank tea at Mr. Crowgers. Tolerably amused. Rebuilding a Pump-house, w^{ch} fell down; levelling some ground near the house; one has always reason to distrust work-people. Plaistering the garrets; door in the back-stairs, and shelves in the green bed-chamber and kitchen:

all these necessary or useful improvements: yet hope not always to continue here, though I have little prospect of going any where else.

28. To Mr. J. Boswell.

22. 23. 24. Rode with C. to Boconnoc: a long and fatiguing ride. In the evening Gr. epigrams, not over decent. Surprised and something disgusted at the strain of the conversation and looseness of sentiment. Took wine till they forgot themselves: early times at Cambridge: their companions there: their fates since: whether proud or vain: both thought themselves born blackguards: much repetition. how does wine make the most sensible people trifle! Poor Baron, who dined with us, sat stupidly silent, half asleep. Rousseau. La Bruyere.

24. Breakfasted with Mr. Baron. Two ordinary, stupid women. Manner has too much influence. Returned to Gluvias in the evening still more fatigued. Should have noticed that we walked on Tuesday morning in Boconnoc woods and park and viewed the house both of w^{ch} I had seen more than once before. Altogether a most delightful scene.

25. We dined at Capt. Dashwood, the Capt of the Lisbon packet in w^{ch} C. was to sail to Lisbon. A good dinner and the afternoon passed tolerably enough. An impudent Irish man and a Swiss.

26. The Burnets, Croaker and Brock drank tea with us. Brock dined: his history of his duel: tiresome to hear people talk of themselves, especially of their courage.

27. We all rode to see the main-rock, a very singular natural curiosity. See a drawing and description of it in Borlase.

October

Clarke staid with us till the 6th, when he embarked for Lisbon in the Expedition, Capt. Dashwood. Did little while he was with me, walking or riding wth him, or looking at the workmen.

Clarke at Mess^{rs} May, Coppendall & Co., Lisbon.

10th. Doing nothing. Making a sunk fence between the field and garden. Covering the Pump-house. Levelling and planting. Hope to complete what I proposed this month. *Recherches Philosophiques sur les Grecs* par M. de Pauw. 2 vol^s.

16. To Mr. Clarke at Lisbon enclosing one to our ambassador Mr. Eden. To Lady Elizabeth Vaughan at Bath. To Revd. Mr. Chancellor Carrington.

23. To the Revd. Mr. Forster.

November

5. To Mr. E. Willoby.

5 to 20. Trifled away the mornings in planting and pruning and overlooking the labourers employed about the walk. In the evening De Pauw. From 9 my wife read Savary's *Letters on Greece*, a superficial book, and Volney's *Account of Egypt and Syria*: but all this is mere bagatelle and nothing to my main design. When shall I act so as to be satisfied with myself? My birth-day and a new year approaches after w^{ch} I would fain hope to be able to do better.

28. Long letter to Mr. J. Boswell. Finished M. de Pauw, all he alleges will not persuade me to think of the Spartans as he does, a conceited arrogant writer. Plutarch, at least Xenophon, were more competent judges, and how opposite are their sentiments on this celebrated people! But he will not allow Xenophon to be the author of the *Treatise on the Lacedemonian Republick*, a novel and ill-founded opinion: Till laterally are not all the Greek historians full of the praises of the moderation of Sparta?

December

3. To Mr. Nicholls.

4th. Began to build a wall as a fence to the garden opposite the stable and backgate.

6th. My birthday 49. How little have I done! how much of Life has been trifled away. Yet it is not yet too late to do

something, if I can *make* opportunity. Here nobody will think of me, my friends will forget me. Must either appear myself or send out something to remind them of me. The chief and almost insuperable (obstacle is) exclusion from Libraries. To be remedied only by going to Town occasionally.

15. Shakespeare.

16. To Revd. Mr. J. Baron.

17. I have no right to read now merely to amuse myself. The new year should begin a new course. To trifle any longer is criminal.

19. Therm: 25.

23. To Mr. T. D. Boswell Esqr with a bill on the Directors of the East India Company to present for acceptance on my account.

26. I certainly ought to think of nothing now but completing what I have long had in view but prosecuted very remisly, not indeed from want of inclination but of books: *that* has damped my ardour and retarded my progress.

THIRD DIARY

Introduction

TEMPLE'S diary for 1790 and 1791 is entered in a note book measuring $7\frac{1}{4} \times 5$ inches and contained in a mottled-green cover. Of its 48 leaves three pages only are unconcerned with entries. Of these, two, at the end of the note-book, are occupied by lists of books, mainly works of travel; while the third, which faces the opening passages of the diary, gives the following addresses:

J. Boswell, Great Portland Street, No 47.

T. D. Boswell, Great Titchfield Street, No 27, Navy Pay Office.

C. Hawkins, Argyle Street, No

Edward Jerningham, Green Street, Grosvenor Square.

Charles Powlett, Itchin, Alresford, Hants.

James Boswell stopped on at Queen Anne Street until Midsummer 1790 and then removed to 47 Great Portland Street, where he lived till his death in 1795. David Boswell had three addresses, Great Titchfield Street, where he lived, Thanet Place, Temple Bar, where he carried on business as a banker, and The Navy Pay Office, where he had a post, given him by Henry Dundas, which at this time was worth only £100 a year. In 1780 Edward Jerningham and his mother Lady Jerningham removed from Conduit Street to South Audley Street, Grosvenor Square. In 1785 she died, and he then removed to 26 Green Street, where he seems to have lived till his death in 1812.

In the third note-book Temple's punctuation is unusually erratic, anticipating every now and then the non-stop style of Mr. James Joyce. His spelling, too, of the names of places, persons, and books is very far from being constant. He gives 'Allerdeen' and 'Allerden', 'Budock' and 'Budoc',

'Carclew' and 'Carcleugh', 'Governor Penn' and 'Governor Pen', 'Mr. Bassett' and 'Mr. Basset', 'Mr. Weatherdon' and 'Mr. Wetherdon', 'Admiral Milbanke' and 'Admiral Milbank', 'Archdeacon Moore' and 'Archdeacon Moor', 'Memoires de l'Academie' and 'Memoirs de l'Academie', 'Voyage de Wheler' and 'Voyage de Wheeler'. New names he seldom gets right the first time: William Windham, the statesman, appears as 'Wyndham', Robert Jephson, the dramatist, as 'Jephson', William Combe, who wrote the 'Tours of Dr. Syntax', as 'Coombe', Nathaniel Wraxall, the historical gossipier, as 'Wraxal', Madame Schwellenberg, Fanny Burney's old tyrant, as 'Mrs. Swellenberg'. Once he gets both author and work wrong: Dr. Henry Moore appears as 'Dr. Moor' and his novel 'Zeluco' as 'Zeluco'. The name of the Rev. Charles Powlett, who was to marry his eldest daughter Nancy, the diarist seems to have found peculiarly elusive. It first appears as 'Paulet', then as 'Powlette', later as 'Paulette', and only with difficulty establishes itself as Powlett. In this case Temple had some excuse for his variants; for Charles, the 3rd Duke of Bolton, who was the young clergyman's grandfather, and Harry, 6th Duke, who was Admiral of the White, both preferred 'Paulet' to 'Powlett' as the spelling of their family name.

In the diary for 1790 and 1791, as in the earlier diaries, the assignment of dates requires to be checked as carefully as the spelling of names. Now and then the same date is given to two successive entries: February 14th, 1791, for instance, appears both as a Monday and a Tuesday. Sometimes Temple seems to suffer from an invincible reluctance to enter an event on the day on which it occurred. In the closing months of 1790 he appears indeed to have converted his journal into a weekly or even a monthly chronicle; for, writing it up for October and November, he obviously cannot be certain whether he sent a letter to his son Francis at Spithead on October 27th or on November 27th, or

whether he sent one to Sir Francis Blake about Frank on October 26th or on November 26th. (Note, by the way, as a strange freak of psychology, very characteristic of the diarist, that in two successive lines he must give his sailor son's name first as Frank and then as Francis!) Eventually he half cancels the earlier entries by drawing a large cross over them. But this correction, while acceptable of course as a proof of Temple's candour, has unfortunately the effect of making readers increasingly suspicious of his accuracy. It is clear that the entries for October and November were not written in till December. This of itself renders their chronology suspect.

In view of the fact that all three persons are excluded from *The Dictionary of National Biography* I think it advisable to preface Temple's diary for 1790 with some account of the 1st Earl of Lisburne and of the two Cornish baronets, Sir Christopher Hawkins and Sir William Lemon.

Wilmot Vaughan, 4th Viscount Lisburne, was the eldest son of the 3rd Viscount, whom he succeeded on February 4th, 1766, and was created Earl of Lisburne on June 24th, 1776. He was twice married. His first wife, to whom he was united on July 10th, 1754, was Elizabeth Gascoigne, only daughter of Joseph Gascoigne Nightingale of Mamhead, Devon, and Enfield, Middlesex. She died on May 19th, 1755, ten days after the birth of her only son, Wilmot, 2nd Earl, leaving to her husband the property at Mamhead to which she had succeeded as heir of her brother, Washington Nightingale. The first Earl's second wife, to whom he was wedded on April 19th, 1763, was Dorothy, eldest daughter of John Shafto of Whitworth, Durham. She bore him one son, John, the 3rd Earl (b. March 10th, 1769), and three daughters, Dorothy Elizabeth, Malet or Mallet (who was given an old family name), and Theodosia Charlotte, and survived him five years, dying on September 12th, 1805. He died on January 6th, 1800. *Burke*, from whom the preceding

narrative has been taken, fails to tell us when the Earl was born.

It will be noted that Lord Lisburne's territorial connexions were various. His family was Welsh, whether related to that of Henry Vaughan, the Silurist, does not appear; his peerage was Irish, not conferring upon him a seat in the House of Lords at Westminster; his country houses were in places so remote from one another as Cardiganshire and Devonshire; and from his mother Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Thomas Watson, of Berwick-upon-Tweed, he inherited a living and presumably other property in the neighbourhood of that town. Temple is said to have been related to his noble patron in the degree of first cousin once removed. I suppose this connexion implies that the Temples or the Stows were related to the Watsons; but I cannot trace the relationship.

Debrett tells us a little more about Lord Lisburne, informing us that his lordship was M.P. for Cardiganshire from 1755 to 1761 and from 1768 to 1796, that he was Lord Lieutenant of the county, that he was appointed a Lord of Trade in 1768, and that he was a Lord of the Admiralty all through Lord North's Administration, from 1770 to 1782. Finally I gather from volume v of *The Correspondence of King George the Third*, edited by Sir John Fortescue (Macmillan & Co. 1928), that in 1780 he was offered the Comptrollership of the Household by the Prime Minister and refused it.

Anything that can be known of Lord Lisburne on the domestic side is due entirely to his connexion with Temple, who tells us (as does Polwhele) that his lordship had a fine library at Mamhead (which of course he may have inherited and not have collected). It is Temple also who, writing to Edward Jerningham on October 3rd, 1785, describes the Earl's two elder daughters, Lady Dorothy and Lady Mallet Vaughan, as 'sensible, unaffected, charming girls'. And it is Mrs. Temple who receives the following confidence about the Earl's eldest son and heir, conveyed in a letter

written to her on September 19th, 1779, by her Mamhead neighbour, Mrs. Collins:

‘I can give but little account of Lord Lisburne’s family; but was Shocked to see such a Paragraph in the Papers about Lord Vaughan. He is confined, I am told; but I trust they will never be able to prove him a Lunatick. He hath undoubtedly drank hard, and the effect of that and the heat may have affected his brain; but time and care may, and I trust will, restore him to reason. The World reflect much on his father, and say his unkindness hath drove him to excess. I hope he will not be so cruel to deprive him of his fortune, till every method hath been tryed to recover him. He is a good humoured young man, is much beloved, and greatly pityed. I had him so much with me when he was young that I have a natural regard for him. Indeed I have a great regard for all the family; though, between friends, I cannot say they have Shewn so much Friendship to me as they might without hurting themselves.

Bad or mad Lord Vaughan may have been; but his family could not prevent his succession to the Earldom on his father’s death. It did, however, manage, as often happens in such cases, to keep him a bachelor; and he died unmarried on May 6th, 1820, when his half-brother John succeeded to the title. Whether the unfortunate young man was doubly an orphan, firstly through the loss of his mother when he was an infant, and secondly through the loss of his father’s affection on that very account, it is of course impossible to say; but Mrs. Collins’s letter seems to suggest that such was his fate. I wonder whether the Earl of Lisburne ever talked over the case of Lord Vaughan with his chief, the Earl of Sandwich, who was also a strange sort of father.

The Shaftos mentioned in Temple’s diary were probably the 2nd Lady Lisburne’s relations.

Christopher Hawkins, second but first surviving son of

Thomas Hawkins, Colonel in the Guards and M.P. for Grampound from 1747 to 1754, was born in May 1758 at Trewithen in Probus, a seat which had descended to Colonel Hawkins from his grandmother's brother, Philip Hawkins, an earlier representative of the afore-mentioned pocket-borough. Of Christopher's early life and education we know nothing. In fact we know little about him at all save that he was M.P. for Mitchell (or St. Michael's) from 1784 to 1799, for Grampound from 1800 to 1807, for Penryn from 1818 to 1820, and for St. Ives from 1821 to 1828, that when he retired from Parliament, despite the gap in his career as Member, he was 'Father of the House of Commons', and that he died unmarried of erysipelas on April 6th, 1829, when the baronetcy of Trewithen and Trewincourt, which had been created for him on July 29th, 1791, became extinct. So far I derive my account of Hawkins from the fifth volume of G.E.C.'s *Complete Baronetage*. From the Rev. Sabine Baring-Gould's *Cornish Characters and Strange Events* I gather that Christopher Hawkins, Manasseh Lopes (a Jew diamond merchant from Jamaica), and Edward James Eliot (the proprietor of seven seats) carried on in Cornwall for years a systematic traffic in bribery, corruption, and the falsification of electoral returns with a view to obtaining titles as a reward for their subservience to Government in finding seats for its nominees in their pocket-boroughs. The same author adds that Hawkins was a good landlord, who was never known to distrain for rent, and that he was a patron of the famous engineer and inventor, Richard Trevithick. The *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1831 tells us that Sir Christopher was F.R.S. and F.S.A. and that in 1811 he published 'Observations on the Tin-Trade of the Ancients in Cornwall, and on the "Ictis" of Diodorus Siculus'. He was an extensive landowner; for he had bought up land, manors, and fairs in all directions the better to prosecute his campaign of borough-mongering.

Temple's Hawkins, like Boswell's Hawkins, seems, how-

ever, to have been notorious for his parsimony. The following rhymes are said to have been affixed to the gates of Trewithen:

A large park and no deer,
A large cellar and no beer,
A large house and no cheer,
Now tell me who lives here.

Sir Christopher Hawkins lives here.

To this charge of inhospitality both Polwhele and Temple give the lie. Sir Kit indeed seems to have been very hospitable and to have enjoyed especially the entertainment of men of letters and clergymen. But, having like John Gilpin's wife a frugal mind, he appears to have practised petty economies not only in Cornwall but in London. In proof whereof I will quote an extract from a letter written from London to her mother at St. Gluvias on June 11th, 1790, by Nancy Temple, then an observant young lady of nearly eighteen:

'On Sunday Mr. Hawkins gave us a dinner at Argyle Street. It is not possible he can be a narrow man, mama: only think of his having at his table turbot, venison, and several other very expensive things. Yet there is a strange contradiction in his character; for in some respects he is shabby to a degree. I am sure the knives that were set were hardly good enough to be in the kitchen; and as a substitute for saltspoons they had put teaspoons. These things appear very extraordinary and inconsistent; but I can't help thinking there is a little affectation in his apparent disregard of making what is called a *genteel figure*.'

The founder of the fortunes of the Lemon family was William Lemon, who, born of humble parentage in November 1696, became manager of a tin-smelting house at Chiandower near Penzance, and soon acquired a great knowledge of mining. In 1724 he married Isabella Vibert, who brought him a small fortune, with which he speculated

in mines. Working on a large scale and employing the new invention, the steam pump, Lemon contrived to realize £10,000 out of the Wheal Fortune mine and soon became the principal tin-smelter in Cornwall, receiving from Frederick, Prince of Wales, a grant of all minerals found in the Duchy save tin. He bought Carclew in Mylor, Cornwall, in 1749 and died at Truro on March 25th, 1760, in his sixty-third year, predeceased by his only son, William, whose eldest son William became the Baronet whom Temple knew. This third William Lemon was born at Truro in 1748 and educated at Christ Church, Oxford. He was M.P. for Penryn from 1770 to 1774 and for Cornwall (sitting in eleven Parliaments) from 1774 till his death in 1824. He was created a Baronet on May 24th, 1774. He married in or before 1774 Jane, sister of Sir Francis Buller, 1st Baronet, and daughter of James Buller of Merial, Cornwall, by his first wife Jane, daughter of Allen Bathurst, 1st Earl Bathurst, and sister of Henry Bathurst, 2nd Earl Bathurst and Lord Chancellor from 1771 to 1778. The baronetcy became extinct on February 13th, 1868. For this account I am indebted to Mr. Baring-Gould's *Cornish Characters and Strange Events*, and to G.E.C.'s *Complete Baronetage*.

In his diary for 1790 and 1791 Temple alludes to over fifty more or less prominent persons, including the author of *Arundel*—Richard Cumberland, the author of *A Simple Story*—Mrs. Inchbald, and four Cornish celebrities, Davies Giddy, the Rev. John Whitaker, Captain Pellew, and Sir Francis Bassett. All these persons, except Sheriff and Macklin, will be found noticed in *The Dictionary of National Biography*. For accounts of the operatic artists, Grétry the composer of *Andromache* and the four singers, Marchesi, Pacchierotti, Madame Mara, and Signora Storace readers should consult Grove's *Dictionary of Music and Musicians*. Charles Sheriff (or Sherriff) is mentioned in Bryan's *Dictionary of Painters and Engravers*; while some idea of Thomas Macklin, rival of Alderman Boydell, may be derived

from consulting Horace Walpole's letters and Joseph Grego's *Gillray the Caricaturist*. Whether the Zimmerman, included among Mr. Christopher Hawkins's guests on Sunday, May 30th, 1790, is to be identified with Johann Georg Zimmermann who wrote the treatise *On Solitude* I cannot say. But I should like to point out that this particular diary reveals the interesting coincidence of Temple's having a double association with Lord Byron through his intercourse with Admiral Milbanke and the fifth Duke of Leeds. The Admiral was the uncle of Sir Ralph, 6th Baronet and father of Lady Byron; while the Duke's first wife, Baroness Conyers, took as her second husband John Byron, the poet's father, the issue of the union being the ill-fated Augusta. The Miss Anguish who accompanied the ducal party to Penryn was presumably sister to the Duchess, Catherine, daughter of Thomas Anguish, Accountant-General to the Court of Chancery.

Betsy (Elizabeth) Boswell (1780-1814) married on December 23rd, 1799, in accordance with her family's custom of inbreeding, her second cousin William, advocate. Her third son, Colonel Bruce Boswell, succeeded in 1841, through the death without issue of Thomas Alexander Boswell, son of David Boswell, to the estates of Crawley Grange, Buckinghamshire, and of Astwood, Berkshire, and an income of £2,000 a year. 'Very pretty and very clever' (so her father tells Temple), Betsy was at this time (1790) being educated 'at M^r. Hockley's at Blacklands House, Chelsea'.

Temple's reading in 1790 and 1791 seems to have had no bearing on his projected work on *Papal Rome*, and was indeed of an entirely miscellaneous character, ranging from archaeology to divinity and from politics to books of travel. Of the foreign or classical volumes mentioned I can identify only:

Voyage du jeune Anacharsis en Grèce dans le milieu du quatrième Siècle avant l'ère chrétienne. Paris. 1788. This was the work of the well-known French antiquary and

numismatist the Abbé Jean Jacques Barthélemy (1716-95), and its four volumes are said to reveal an extensive knowledge of the ancient classical world, especially of Greece and the Greek colonies. In a letter to Temple dated March 5th, 1789, Boswell describes it, on the recommendation of his friend John Courtenay, M.P. for Tamworth, as 'an admirable book'.

(2) *Voyage dans l'intérieur de l'Afrique, par le Cap de Bonne Espérance, dans les années 1780-85.* 2 tom. Paris, 1790. This work of François Le Vaillant's was translated into English in the same year by E. Helme as *Travels from the Cape of Good Hope into the interior parts of Africa*. (Information derived from the catalogues of the British Museum Library.)

(3) *Delle Rivoluzioni d'Italia*. Published in three volumes between 1769 and 1772. The author was an Italian professor, Carlo Giovanni Maria Denina (1731-1813), who, patronized successively by Frederick the Great and Napoleon, and attached by the Jesuits as an anti-clerical, passed most of his latter years first at Berlin and then at Paris as Imperial Librarian.

(4) *Recherches philosophiques sur les Grecs*, 1778. This was a companion work, written by Cornelius de Pauw, the Dutch historian, to his *Recherches philosophiques sur les Américains*, published in three volumes between 1768 and 1770.

(5) Θεοφραστου χαρακτηρες ηθικοι, 1790. John Wilkes's edition of Theophrastus was an *édition de luxe* quarto, of which 100 copies were printed on fine paper and 3 on vellum. In his account of *The Early Life of Charles James Fox* Sir George Otto Trevelyan, O.M., says:

'To such a point did Wilkes carry his economy of labour that he sent his Greek from the press without accents, a piece of literary audacity which, to the academic mind, is a stronger proof of his courage than the prefatory remarks on the letter of Lord Weymouth.'

The plays which Temple saw on his visit to town in 1790 were, on May 18th, at Drury Lane, *All in the Wrong*, Arthur Murphy's adaptation of Molière's *Cocu Imaginaire*, originally produced at the same theatre on June 15th, 1761; on May 21st, at Drury Lane, *A Trip to Scarborough*, Sheridan's alteration of Vanbrugh's comedy *The Relapse*, originally produced at the same theatre on February 24th, 1777, and *The Devil to Pay*, an operatic version reduced to one act by Theophilus Cibber of T. Jevons's *The Devil of a Wife*; on May 25th, at Drury Lane, *The Heiress*, a comedy founded by General Burgoyne (of Saratoga fame) on Diderot's *Père de Famille*, originally produced at the same theatre on January 14th, 1786, and *The Quaker*, Charles Dibdin's comic opera in two acts, originally produced at the same theatre on April 3rd, 1775; on June 7th, at Covent Garden, *Hamlet*, with Joseph George Holman as the Prince, and *Nootka Sound* or *Britain Prepared* (its third representation), a pantomime opera in one act, in which Bannister, Ryder, Blanchard, Mrs. Mountain, and Mrs. Martyn appeared.

The letters which Nancy Temple wrote to her mother in Cornwall during this visit of her father and herself to London reveal the fact that she soon learnt heartily to dislike her host's eldest daughter, Veronica Boswell. In the second (undated) letter she shows herself prepared to be friendly:

'Miss B. seems a very amiable girl. She is come to her Father's, I fancy, on purpose to receive me.'

In the fourth letter (also undated) she shows marked signs of disapprobation, apropos of a visit which the two girls made with their fathers to Ranelagh:

'You cannot conceive a more unpolished girl than Miss B. is. She is really vulgar, speaks broad Scotch, but appears very good humoured. I am really surprised at Mr. Boswell's keeping her so secluded: he never scarce permits her to go out. She seems now like a bird got out of her cage; for he must let her accompany me while I stay.'

She is very anxious for us to remain here; but I fancy with rather an interested motive. However, I believe we shall stay here only a day or two longer; as it is very disagreeable not to be able to stir without Miss B.'

In the sixth letter, dated June 6th, Nancy Temple finds Miss Boswell still more objectionable, this time on the occasion of an excursion to Vauxhall:

'You cannot conceive how disagreeable Miss Boswell is at these places. She is so vulgar and uncouth and such a strange figure that she keeps one in continual dread of what she will say or do. Away she flies into the thickest of the crowd without any regard to herself or us. And then she is so fearful of getting into a carriage and makes such a puzzle that I am often tempted to be quite out of humour.'

In the eighth letter (undated), fearing lest Miss Boswell may accompany them back to St. Gluvias, Nancy is almost in despair:

'We mean to go to no more public places, which I believe Miss Boswell is not pleased at. Oh Mama! She is a most disagreeable girl. I can't tell you how vulgar and unpleasant she is. I am sure if she goes down with us I shall be miserable and shall ever regret our staying with them; for, had we not done that, there would not have been the least necessity for inviting her to go with us. Oh dear! I am vexed beyond expression about it. I absolutely dislike her and I cannot help it. One thing is I don't look upon myself as being under the least obligation to her; for Papa has taken her to all the public places we have been at, and I am sure I heartily wished her absence. She is such an uncouth figure. Pray let me know if you think there is any need to bring her with us. Indeed I am out of humour about it. . . . I have opened my letter on purpose to tell you that Miss B. does not accompany us.'

THIRD DIARY

1790

May 5th. Set out for London and Bath with my daughter: arrived at Exeter.

6th. At Bath delighted with the buildings here and the Country round it. Slept at Mrs. Butlers No. 1. Bennet Street, but eat at Mrs. Gwatkins in Oxford Row, who shewed us every possible civility and entertained us with every delicacy of the Season.

7th. Viewed Camden Place, the New Crescent, Laura Place.

Saturday 8th. The Market, the Rooms, the Circus, the Old Crescent.

Sunday 9th. Heard a Charity Sermon in St. James's Church where they chanted the Responses in the Litany. In the Evening heard the Singing in Lady Huntingdon's chapel; too languishing and effeminate.

Monday 10th. Breakfasted in Spring Gardens. New Walk. At the Ball in the New Rooms.

Tuesday 11th. Came to Oxford.

Wednesday 12th. Surprised at the spaciousness of the Streets and the magnificence of the Colleges. Our Lord bearing his Cross by Reubens at Magdalen, the finest picture I ever saw. The meekness, the resignation, the fatigue, the flesh and blood are astonishing. Drank tea at Dr. Flamanks with Mr. Clarke, the Master of Pembroke, Mr. Kendall. We all went to the Concert: met there, young Enys, Richards, Barker.

Thursday 13. Heard a Sermon at Christ Church Chapel by a Dr. Ford, a strange medley. Drove to Blenheim, ground too flat: yet finely sloping from the Mansion to the water: as we drove round the park, some striking points of view. A great pile, mass of buildings, but heavy and too

low for its extent. The rooms splendidly magnificent and several fine pictures. Supt at Mr. Clarke's Trinity.

Friday 14th. Arrived in town at Mr. Boswell's, Queen Ann Street, Cavendish Square. Happy to meet the earliest friend I have, and to see his children.

Saturday 15th. Saw Boydell and Macklins Exhibitions, Mr. Nicholls who went with us and Mr. D. and Miss Boswell. Mr. Hawkins called. A holy family by Sir J., the sacrifice of Jephtha by Opie.—Just experience the same feelings I did when in town before.—When pictures are seen in such numbers, one cannot consider any of them with pleasure. To study pictures, one ought to stay in the person's house.

Sunday 16th. At Oxford chapel: affected sermon. Called at L. Lisburnes. Met Mr. Shaftoe. Mr. Nicholls called and Mr. Hawkins. We drove to Kensington gardens and walked there. Mr. Boswell obliged to go into Surrey with Lord Lonsdale. Dined with Miss Boswell and my daughter. Lord and Lady Lisburne asked us. Cannot bear London.

Monday 17th. Called on Mr. Nicholls, Jerningham, Hawkins. Found only Jerningham at home. Lord Lisburne and General Vaughan called. Met the General at the Mount Coffee-house. Lord and Lady Lisburne, Lady Elizabeth and Lady Mallet Vaughan called again. Mr. Nicholls called, went with him to Admiral Milbanks in Wimpole Street No. 5. Mr. B. returned; dined with him. In the evening went to Ranelagh.

Tuesday 18th. In the morning called at several places with Mr. D. Boswell; ordered a print of my dear friend J. Boswell from a picture of Sir J. Reynolds. Sir Francis, his sister and Miss Blake called. We all dined with Mr. Hawkins in Argyle Street, then went to Drury lane to see all in the wrong. Not much entertained.

Wednesday 19th. In the morning at the Exhibition(s) in Somerset place and in Pall Mall. In the evening at Astleys: the horsemanship and tumbling really astonishing. Sir F. and Lady Blake called and Miss Shafto.

Thursday 20th. In the morning Miss Palmer and Mrs. Gwatkin called and engaged us for to-morrow. Dr. Shafto called. At Mr. Hastings trial. Burke, Fox and Wyndham &c. spoke. Dined at Mr. Dillys with Mr. and Miss Boswell, my daughter, and Dr. Mayo and two strangers. Mr. Reed drank tea with us a rude, ill-bred fellow, editor of Old Plays.

Friday 21. Bought several things. Called at Sir Francis Blakes: engaged to dine with them and go to Ranelagh on Wednesday. Called in Gr. Ormond Street on Mr. and Mrs. Claxton and Mrs. Bedford. Dined at Sir J. Reynolds with Miss Palmer, Mrs. Gwatkin, the younger Mr. Elliot and Mr. Edward Gwatkin. We then went to Drury Lane to the Trip to Scarborough (and) the Devil to pay. Mrs. Jordan excellent in Miss Hoyden and Nell, Miss Farren in Berinthia.

Saturday 22. Called at Lord Lisburnes. Went and viewed St. Pauls.—A Mr. Seward breakfasted with us. Mr. Proctor called. Dined at Mr. Boswells. Governor Penn drank tea with us, a pleasing character: he had before drank a bottle of Madeira with B. in ten minutes. Mr. Hawkins called and supt: much mirth and good humour.

Sunday 23. Went into two Popish chapels. Called on the Bishop of Exeter, Mr. Nicholls, Mr. Hawkins. Dined in Harley Street at Lord Lisburnes. Lord and Lady L., Lady Elizabeth, Lady Mallet, General and Mr. Vaughan and Mr. Forster jun^r. In the evening at the Mount coffee-house, General Vaughan, Governor Pen^t &c. there.

Monday 24th. Nancy wrote to her mother and brother: walked. Mr. David Boswell dined with us. Boswell went to Eton to the *Montem*. Signor Rota began to read Italian Poetry with Nancy. Staid at home this evening: Nancy being tired.

Tuesday 25th. No satisfaction in this kind of Life: nothing but bustle and hurry. Mr. Douglas called. Do not even breathe freely in this thick air. Dined (all of us) at

^t Penn with one 'n'.

Mr. Hawkins in Argyle Street. Then went to the Play The heiress and the Quaker, not much amused.

Wednesday 26. Called on Mr. Malone editor of Shakespeare. Dined in Lincolns inn fields at Sir Francis Blakes. company Sir F. and Lady, his sister Miss Blake, Miss B. and sister, two Master Blakes, Colonel Edmestone, Dr. and Mrs. Hewett, Mr. Alder. We then drove to Astleys. Tired of this foolish and barbarous entertainment. No pleasure in this kind of life. At the Pantheon: heard the Musical boy in the morning of Wednesday.

Thursday 27. At the Museum with Mr. Hawkins. Saw it in too great a hurry. Dined at Mr. D. Boswells. Company Mr. J. Boswell, Mr. Cavallo, famous for electricity.

Friday 28th. Mr. Lumisden, a learned ingenious man (formerly secretary to the Pretender) and Mr. Cavallo dined with us. In the Evening went to the Opera of Andromache. Marchesi acted Pyrrhus and Madame Mara Andromache both admirably: yet I can never be reconciled to speaking in Recitative. obliged to take three chairs no coaches being to be had. not in bed till near two.

Saturday 29. Up at 6 to go to Handel Commemoration in Westminster Abbey. Sat there from 8 to 12 before it began. King, Queen, Prince of W. present. Madame Mara, Signora Storace, Pacchierotti, Miss Cantelo the best singers. Not so much astonished and delighted as I expected. Returned to Queen Ann Street about 5 where I dined with Mr. D. Boswell, his brother being gone to Chelsea with the Governors there in celebration of King Charles Restoration. Oppressed for want of sleep. O rus quando te aspiciam. All this evening at home: incapable of any amusement. Highly nervous as I used to be when from home.

Sunday 30th. Heard Dr. Courtenay at Hanover Square 15 minutes: nothing interesting. Dined at Mr. Hawkins's, company Mr. J. Hawkins Zimmerman and son, Mr. Wadstron (a Swede) and fanatic, Mr. Giddy and Son, Mr. Bos-

well; the day passed pleasantly enough. Staid till 9. Mr. Wadstron came with us home, supt, and staid till 12.

Monday 31. Saw Romneys pictures. Walked in St. James's park. Dined at home. Company Mr. Dilly. Mr. Greg drank tea. Went no where in the Evening.

Tuesday June 1st. Called on Mr. Douglas; not at home. On Mr. Hawkins engaged to dine with him, go to the House and Vauxhall. Drove to Chelsea-College with Mr. and Miss and Master Boswell and Nancy. Saw his daughter Betsey at School there. Did not dine with Mr. Hawkins but at Mr. Boswell's with his brother. We went at 8 to Fox hall and met Mr. Hawkins there. Lady Lisburne and daughters called in the morning.

Wednesday, June 2d. Saw the Kings Library 4 rooms: a good Collection. Dined at home. We drove to Covent Garden to see Hamlet; the house full obliged to return: Nancy put out her knee by treading on an Orange skin. At eleven went to Ranelagh, came home at 2. Very much crowded.

Thursday June 3d. Breakfasted with Mr. Jerningham in Green Street he played on the harp and sun(g): he then accompanied us to Macklins Exhibition, the Lyceum, Sir Ashton Levers Museum, Sir Joshua Reynolds pictures. He^t has just got a fine picture of Corregio w^{ch} he bought for 40 guineas, but values at 5000. Dined at home. Engaged to go to the Opera with Mr. Jerningham but Nancy found her knee so painful we could not. Staid at home to-night. What a strange, dissipated life is led by people in general here!

Friday, June 4th. Kings birthday. Nancy not well enough to walk. Called on Nicholls saw him and his mother and engaged to pass a day with him at Richmond next week. Dined at home. Then we all went to Sadler's Wells amused with the scenery and rope dancing. the suppleness of the human frame is really astonishing.

Saturday June 5th. Sir F. Blake called; did not see him.

^t Presumably Sir Joshua.

Went and saw L^d Fifes house, the view from his garden of the river, two bridges &c very fine. We then went by water to the Tower saw armoury, Lions &c. Returned to dinner company, Lord Sunderlin, Sir J. Reynolds, Mr. Malone, Mr. Courtenay, Mr. Jephson, Mrs. Gwatkin, Miss Palmer. Much agreeable conversation. Particularly pleased with Sir J. and Mr. M. Mr. J. and L^d S. staid till past 12. Mr. Jerningham called.

Sunday June 6th. Heard a very dull sermon in Lincolns Inn Chapel. Called on Sir F. Blake about Frank.—Mr. Douglas and Miss Shaftoe called.—Quite tired of being here: much more enjoyment at home. Nothing so unmeaning as the visits one either pays or receives. The late hours make me drowsy during the whole day. My increased nervous disposition proves how ill town agrees with me.—We all dined with Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Douglas and Mr. Ratcliff there.

Monday, June 7th. Called on Mr. Jerningham; not at home. Dined with Mr. J. and Mr. T. D. Boswell. In the evening at Covent Garden theatre; Holman very good in Hamlet. Nootka Sound. ad captandum vulgus.

Tuesday 8. Dined at Mrs. Bedfords in Great Ormond Street. We went with them¹ in their carriage to Shirley in Surrey.

Wednesday 9. In the morning rode to various places in the neighbourhood, Wickham, Hayes &c.

Thursday 10th. Rode again.

Friday 11. Dined at Mrs. Kings at Wigmore; company Mrs. King² widow to Dr. King who wrote of the Greek Church in Russia, her daughters, Mr. Papillion and two daughters (a great Botanist). After dinner walked in her Garden and in Mr. Wells's pleasure grounds (a Ship builder) laid out with surprising taste.

Saturday 12. Rode to Holwood, Mr. Pitts. poor house, but a fine view from it, grounds well broken and wooded.

¹ The Claxtons.

² In the life of the Rev. John Glen King, D.D., F.R.S., F.S.A., contained in *The Dictionary of National Biography*, his second wife (and widow) Jane is said to have died in August 1789.

Turning the road, planting largely and enclosing part of the Common. a very extensive Roman encampment.

Sunday 13. Heard a meagre sermon from Dr. Althorp at Croydon Church. Mr. and Mrs. Claxton always the same amiable worthy couple.

Monday 14. Returned to town with Mr. and Mrs. Claxton in their carriage to Mrs. Bedfords where we breakfasted. Returned to Mr. Boswells. Called on L^d Lisburne: on Mr. Jerningham, on Mr. Hawkins. Dined at home Mr. David B. and Miss Boswell.

Tuesday 15th. Drove to the Queens house. Could not get in. Saw the Guards exercised and heard the Band of Musick. Called on Mr. Jerningham. Found Stockdale there and a Mr. Coombe who had run thro 16,000 and now subsists by writing Pamphlets and in News Papers. Mr. Douglas called. Engaged to dine with him on Friday at 5. Dined at home.

Wednesday 16. Went with Mr. Jerningham, Miss Boswell and Nancy to Richmond, Strawberry hill, and Hampton Court. Dined at the Star and Garter at Richmond. After dinner rowed up the Thames to Twickenham, (once Mr. Popes, now Mr. Ellis's a strange change) delighted with the view from Richmond hill and with the Country on each side the river. Came home between nine and ten.

Thursday 17th. Went with Nancy to several shops: dined at home with Mr. T. D. Boswell. Nancy fatigued herself, which affected her spirits. Taking young people from home occasions anxiety and apprehension. Mr. B. obliged to set out with Lord Lonsdale for Carlisle to attend the General election so that I am left alone.

Friday, 18. Called at Lady Lisburnes, at Sheriffs, miniature painter in Tavistock Row. Dined at Mr. Douglas, in Edward Street: Company, Mr. and Mrs. D., Mr. Sherborne, Misses¹

Nancy and Miss B.

Saturday 19. Went with Mr. T. D. Boswell into the city about Bush, Blind, Fane, M.C. the Bank. Dined at home.

¹ A blank space has been left for filling in the name.

Sunday 20th. In what a frivolous manner people of fashion pass their time here: trifling visits in the morning, at night fatiguing, unwholesome hours: how much more agreeable the manner of Life of Rousseau in the island of——?

Never thinks of any one but himself: indifferent to other peoples feelings or whether they are amused: envious: solicitous to make known what others wish to conceal: no command of his tongue: restless, no composure. Can never be happy uniform, or to be depended on. Disobliged most of his friends: one while paying court, another wishing to be independent. Not able to bear home or the company of his children. Losing all respect in their eyes by saying the wildest and most imprudent things before them: yet good humoured lively and benevolent.

* * *

Could not bear the confinement of a town: must have it in my option to walk out when I please: to see trees and verdure and regale on the fresh air. Conversation how seldom interesting: one tires of hearing the merits of authors discussed so familiar to one. Cannot bear that apparent eagerness to get the start in speaking, yet the conversation in the Country is mighty insipid.

* * *

The noise and roaring of the coaches dreadful both by night and day.

* * *

I have nothing to do here my time hangs upon my hands, I cannot enjoy myself: must get away.

Never so easy and comfortable as at home, sauntering in my walks, reading in my library, or diverting myself with the prattle and vivacity of the children.

* * *

Very disagreeable being in another persons house: hours, habits often different: seldom any thing to make up for the

† The asterisks placed here and subsequently are Temple's own marks.

restraint, or the being obliged to talk or be in company when one wishes to be silent or alone: yet I suppose it is habit that makes us fond of company or otherwise: past eleven o'clock and not yet set down to breakfast.

* * *

There is a want of order of neatness, an indelicacy a want of a becoming reserve and fearfulness of offending that disgusts one: a wonderful difference between S. and English manners. People have so many engagements that a stranger, or comer for a short time is hardly thought of.—Without a carriage and servants, London will not do; no visiting with a female in a hackney coach.

* * *

The manner, the accent, the cold, deliberate, reflected familiarity and disagreeableness quite intolerable.

* * *

If you do not think of yourself and your own concerns, nobody else will think of them. Most people eager and anxious about themselves only: their pursuits, advancement, gratifications.

* * *

Money makes you master of your own time, enjoyments &c.

* * *

What can I do to-morrow and Tuesday?

Westminster Abbey, or Greenwich,
or Nicholls, or the Queens house,
or the Botanical garden at Kew.

At home till half past three when we went to Portland chapel and heard a very dull sermon by a very inanimate preacher. Dined at home at half past five. In the evening Mr. Jerningham called, we walked in the fields beyond Wimpole Street returned to Supper: Mr. J. staid till near one and was very entertaining.

Monday 21. Breakfasted with Mr. Jerningham: I then returned to Queen Ann Street and we went to Leicester

Fields and called on Miss Palmer (not at home). Met Dr. Shaftoe, Mr. Douglas (who had called on us). Mrs. Douglas had also called. Dined at home.

Young people have no idea of expense and would buy every thing. Shall not easily be prevailed on to come from home again. The journey has afforded no manner of satisfaction peculiarly to myself. What pleasure I have had was in seeing my daughter pleased: teased into it much against my inclination. Boswell by no means made it answer my expectation: he seems never to have intended what he said in his Letters, or was so engrossed by himself his own views &c, that he hardly thought of providing entertainment or society for me.—Never again delude myself with hopes of pleasure from home. Found nobody so entertaining or so attentive to please as Mr. Jerningham. Tomorrow I trust to get rid of this disagreeable scene. Mr. Ludlow called in the morning and offered to go with us to the Queen's house tomorrow his mother being intimate with Mrs. Swollenberg, the Queens German favourite.

* * *

Very ill-judged to stay in Boswell's house: made others think less attention necessary. He has a strange way of saying every thing he knows of people that he thinks will undervalue them.—What he says of one to others seldom turns out to ones praise or credit. No recommendation to be thought to be intimate with him. His life known to be very free and he cannot conceal his love of wine. How could I permit myself to be so over-persuaded? Did I not always find that distant journies and London never answered with me. O the folly of leaving sweet, quiet home!

* * *

A very obliging invitation from Sir J. Reynolds and Miss Palmer to dine with them tomorrow or Wednesday, which we could not accept intending to set out for the West in the afternoon, unlucky this!

* * *

Mr Proctor and Mr. D. Boswell called; walked a little in the evening with Mr. D. Boswell.

* * *

Young folks seldom consider what trouble they give to other people their servants &c.

* * *

Never place money with any one to take it as you want it, if you should want it soon: rather keep it by you: few people like to part with money.

* * *

Girls are very troublesome, fond of finery, and wishing to have it all with them, almost to fill the carriage.

Tuesday 22. Viewed Westminster Abbey &c. Dined at home and Mr. D. Boswell. after tea set out on our return to the West. Much lightening without thunder. a pleasant journey to Exeter, a Quaker Lady to Bridport; a Mr. Paulet rector of St. Martin's from Salisbury.

Wednesday 23. At Exeter distressed for conveyance on account of the General election: at last got an Ivy Bridge chaise, the driver engaging his master should furnish us with a chaise to Plymouth. When we got to Plymouth no chaise to be got. Called on Mrs. Salisbury at Stonehouse. By accident met with Capt. Sherbrooke and Mr. Harvey who interceded for a chaise with an Innkeeper they knew.

Thursday 24th. Set out at 6 past Cribble. breakfasted at Liskeard; where Mr. Paulet left us; got to Lostwithiel about 2. called on Mrs. Baron, Mr. McGilvray, Mrs. Harvey. Took John and Frederic in the chaise with us, upon account of the General Election and contest for the County between Mr. Gregor and Sir J. St. Aubyn. Got home about Ten o'clock after an absence of¹ and found my wife and two other children quite well. Thank God! which I do most sincerely. At home till the fourth July doing little and returning to my former habits. Rode to Trewithen in the evening; staid with Mr. Hawkins till Tuesday morn-

* A blank space has been left for filling in the number of weeks.

ing, when I rode to Lostwithiel in favour of Mr. Gregor against Sir John St. Aubyn. dined and drank tea with Mr. Baron, returned in the evening to Trewithen and came home on Wednesday. To dinner at Trewithen, Mr. John Hawkins, Mr. Hawkins of Helstone, Mr. Johns, Mr. Truven, Mr. Borlase, Mr. Stackhouse &c.

W. 7. Some characters are so unamiable, so petulant and inattentive to attach that it is almost impossible to affect them.

* * *

Tho' I longed so much to return, do not find myself happy *θομε* is not *πλεσαντ* to me and there is no society or conversation near me. Without ardor for study I shall grow weary of myself.

* * *

F. 9. To Mr. J. Boswell.—Cannot yet exert myself, or resume my wonted habits.

The beginning of this month, Mr. Powlette came and staid two or three days. On leaving us he wrote a letter from Truro proposing marriage to Nancy and leave to return and explain particulars. As he was well connected, had fair prospects, seemed an agreeable young man and Nancy had no objection, we said we would be glad to see him. He returned Monday the fifth. Professed great attachment to Nancy, said he had a Living in Hampshire of £100 a year. St. Martyn was worth £300, but that he was to resign again to his uncle, having taken it only to serve a particular purpose: on his mothers decease he would have 2200 and had considerable expectations from his uncle and promise of preferment from the Duke and Duchess of Bolton to whom he was nearly related: he was also Chaplain to the Prince of Wales. His uncle also promised to resign the Chaplainship of the Guards in his favour.

We rode to Carclew. met Sir W^m and Lady Lemon, viewed the improvements eat fruit and engaged to dine with them on the¹

¹ A blank space has been left for filling in the date.

Rode to see the Main-rock in Constantine parish Dined with the Lemon family; very well amused. Rode to see a Mine and Fire engine. In our way called on Mr. Beauchamp. Recommended to see *Ale* and *Cakes*. Mr. Coodes family and Mr. and Mrs. Weatherdon and Mr. Paulette dined with us.

S. 17. Mr. Powlette left us with leave to write to Nancy, but requiring no positive engagement. She seemed averse to any thing that suggested the necessity of leaving her mother. Mr. Powlette's behaviour was highly candid, open and liberal.

M. 19. Mr. and Mrs. Baron came from Lostwithiel to dinner.

T. 20. Tuesday rode out.

W. 21. Rode. Mrs. and Miss Osbornes drank tea with us. Robert set out with Mr. and Mrs. Weatherdon for Newton Abbot in Devonshire to go to School there. Having no turn for languages I hoped he might succeed in writing and accounts.

T. 22. Rode. Mr. Pye and Mr. Webber dined with us. John and Frederic returned to school to Lostwithiel.

F. 23. Mr. and Mrs. Baron left us to go to Flushing. Turning over again Confessions de Rousseau, enlarging, new flooring and giving new windows to the dining parlour, completing the walk, enlarging &c the stables. only three stalls before; will now have five or six.

S. 24. Mr. and Mrs. Baron returned; drank tea with them at Mrs. Osbornes, a widow of a clergyman, a friend of Mr. Barons. Left us again on Monday the 26th. Returned again on Thursday the 29th. On Friday the 30th Mr. Baron, Nancy the Miss Coodes &c. attempted to go on the water in Mr. Reeds yacht: as it threatened rain I got out at Flushing with Octavius but they sailed to the Black Rocks spite of the Wind and rain. Mr. and Mrs. Baron returned to Lostwithiel on Saturday the 31: both very worthy persons, but not quite in our way.

31. Wrote to Mr. T. D. Boswell.

August

S. 7. Nancy went to Duport on a visit to Miss Peters.— Wrote by her to Mr. Forster of Boconnoc respecting Mr. Powlett.

W. 11. Finished Voyage du jeune Anacharsis. The last two volumes not so interesting as the preceding ones. Began to bathe yesterday: makes me drowsy.—Still not making that use of my time I ought to do.—My wife reading to me from Zeluco, a Novel by Dr. Moor, the last volume has considerable merit: his hero too much a villain. Laura virtuous, amiable; introduces characters he seems afterwards almost to forget.

M. 16. Long letter to Mr. J. Boswell.

T. 17. To Revd. Mr. Baron of Lostwithiel.

S. 28. To Revd. Mr. Baron, Mr. T. D. Boswell, Mr. E. Willoby.

29. To Mr. James and Mr. T. D. Boswell. Dipping in the French Memoirs, but doing nothing of use or what I approve. Spirits bad.—Children grow daily more expensive. No Society, no conversation, yet nothing to be done for want of Libraries: nobody near that reads or has any books.

September

W. 8. To Mr. J. Boswell. Mr. Hawkins came to dinner and staid till two next day.

S. 27. To Mr. Hawkins.—Finished Voyage de M. Le Vaillant dans l'Afrique. Entertaining, but does not afford so much information as I expected: shew that vast tracks of Africa are possessed by wild beasts rather than inhabited by man: very favourable to Savage Life and manners: give a horrid idea of the cruelties of the white colonists to the Hottentots Caffres &c. Full of vanity and French ostentation, yet his exquisite sensibility atones for them. Confutes all the lies of Kolbe.

29. To Mrs. Forster and Mr. Willoby.

October

9th. Composed a Sermon recommending thankfulness for a plentiful harvest. Have been reading in a very desultory manner. Fear I daily grow less assiduous. Emulation damped by distance from Libraries and conversation. Why may I not endeavour to prepare what I have collected. Attempt it on Monday. 9–12 Papers. 12–2 ride. 2–3 dress. 3–4 dine. 4–5 walk. 5–6 read with Nancy. 6–7 Tea. 7–8 read alone. 8–9 Italian or French with Nancy. 9–11 my wife read to me.

M. 11. To General Vaughan about John.

W. 13. Rode to Trewithen to dinner: company Dr. Jackson (soon to be a Bishop by means of the Duke of Leeds) and his sister and Mr., Mrs. and Miss Stackhouse. They had been to see his wife and four daughters embark at Falmouth for Lisbon for their health. Staid all night and returned on Thursday to dinner: a good deal entertained.

M. 18. To Mr. Boswell, Mr. Douglas, Revd. Mr. Stockdale, Mr. Wetherdon. My wife finished *The Dean of Coleraine* and *Arundel* in the evenings. The latter and indeed both somewhat indelicate and licentious.

W. 20. To Mr. George about the clerks place.

T. 21. To Sir F. Basset about the County hospital.

23rd, 24th. Ireland's picturesque journey through Holland &c. Amusing but contains little information: seems a person of taste in painting &c.

26. To Sir Francis Blake about Frank.

27. To my son Francis at Spithead, just returned from Newfoundland where he had been on board the¹

November

5th. To Mr. T. D. Boswell.

8. To Mr. Powlett and Mr. C. Powlett junior.

17th. To Mr. T. D. Boswell. To Mr. C. Hawkins.

¹ A blank space has been left for filling in the name of the ship. Doubtful about the *locus* of these entries for October 26th and 27th, Temple has half-cancelled them by drawing a large cross over them.

18th. Gilpin's Tour in Scotland, displays the same fine taste and ingenuity as his other Tours. Looking over again that to the Lakes and the Wye. A new species of writing, unknown before in this Country. Mr. Gray gave some idea of it in his Letters.

21. Made uneasy by a pain and weakness across my back: this is the third time (at intervals) it has teased me.

22. Nancy has been ill for several days of a cold and sore throat. A very sickly season: never had so many funerals.

26. To Sir F. Blake about Frank.

27. To Mr. James and Mr. T. D. Boswell about Frank. To Frank at Spithead just returned from Newfoundland where he had been with Admiral Milbank.

28. To Mr. H. Dundas, Com: Martin, Mr. Gwatkin to get Frank made a Lieutenant. My wife to Lady Lisburne on the same account.

29. To Mr. Jerningham.

December

4. To Mr. E. Willoby with an attested copy of Mr. Sparrows receipt for £500 and Interest.

6. Lent Dr. W^m Flamank £40 by a draft on T. D. Boswell Esqr 30 days after date.

Sent to T. D. Boswell a draft for 88, 19, 11 by the Berwick Bank on Smith, Payne and Smiths, dated Nov. 13, payable forty days after date.

9. To Frank To Mr. J. Boswell. To Mr. Hawkins about Frank's promotion.

6th. My birthday.

10. To the Revd. Mr. Nicholls, Blundeston, Suffolk.

16. To Mr. Willoby about the payment of £540.

To Mr. T. D. Boswell about the same.

To Mr. James Boswell, Miss Boswell, Mrs. Forster.

17th. To Mr. J. Boswell. To Dr. Flamank about my draft for £40 of w^{ch} he has not acknowledged the receipt.

Mr. de Calonnes and Mr. Burkes books on the French

Revolution abound in argument eloquence, sensibility, especially Mr. B. one of the profoundest and most ingenious of modern composition. Its great excellencies may well excuse a degree of exaggeration and vehemence: every where ^{displayed}

the deepest knowledge of human nature is discovered. It has given me a very high idea indeed of his Talents and makes me almost forgive his Political Deviations.

Historical Memoirs of Religious Dissention. The Dissenters weighed in their own scales. Give a just idea of the principles and their effects of those Sectaries.

Primitive Christianity by Dr. Knowles, shewing (in defence of the Trinity) that Christ was uniformly worshipped as God in the first four Centuries. learned and judicious.

22. I hope to be able to read something of what is called Divinity every Sunday, at breakfast and in the evening. Barnards Divinity of J. Christ demonstrated, against Priestley. Began this to-day, but shall reserve it with Bp. Horseley for Sundays. Read eleven Letters; so far approve it much.

23. To Mr. Hawkins. No time to lose now, inexcusable if I do not attempt to finish my Papers. Ought to read with no other view.

T. 28. To Mr. Boswell.

31. To Mr. Gwatkin. To Francis. To Mr. Boswell.

1791

(7). To Mrs. Harvy with Mcdowell and Pikes draft on Thomas Cox, Winchester Street London for 26. 10. dated 4th Jan^y at 30 days. To Revd. Mr. Baron.

F. 14. To Mr. Boswell, to Frank.

T. 18. To Revd. Mr. Baron. Memoirs de France. For the future must write rather than read. With Nancy from 5 to 6 Bible and Hume's history of England: from 8 to 9 Voyage d'Anacharsis Metastasio Denina Rivoluzioni d'Italia. 50 is a serious age: yet how little have I done!

19th. To Clarke at Geneva: a long Letter.

25. Long Letter to Revd. Mr. Nicholls at Richmond Surrey. To Mr. J. Boswell. To Mr. Tremenheere at Penzance about his being Coroner. Par: duty. Work-man. Nancy.

29. Enclosed to Mr. Richard Wilson of Bartlets Buildings Mr. Sparrows Original Receipt for the payment of £500 and Interest Mortgage on Allerdeen for the inspection of the counsel of Mr. Sparrows heirs that they may be induced to sign certain Deeds, they not being satisfied with an attested Copy, transmitted before. Kept by me another attested copy of the Receipt.

February

2d. To Dr. Flamank, Oxford thanking him for the Heads of Houses Letter to Mr. Burke on his Book on the French Revolution and his Answer. To Mr. J. Boswell. To Admiral Milbanke and Capt. Pellew desiring leave for Frank to come home, having hurt his leg.

3. To Sir Francis Blake and General Vaughan in favour of Frank.

F. 4th. To the Revd. Mr. Giddy at St. Earth,¹ desiring to see him and his son, who had been particularly attentive to us at Oxford.

M. 7. To Mr. D. Boswell, saying I would draw for £84.

T. 8. To Mr. J. Boswell and Admiral Milbanke about Frank.

W. 9. To Mr. J. Boswell, Dr. Flamank at Oxford and Mr. Claxton at Shirley in Surrey on the death of his wife's mother, Mrs. Bedford. Find that unless I dedicate the morning to my Papers shall never be able to complete any thing. May read &c in the evening. That each day may not pass away unobserved and unimproved, shall set down—record particularly how it has been spent—employed.

T. 10. To the Right Hon:^{ble} H. Dundas in favour of Frank. To Mr. J. Boswell. Did little to-day but write these Letters and read with Nancy.

¹ St. Erth.

T. 11. Interrupted: two Stories in Boccacio. Plato's Crito. Nothing yet to my Papers.

S. 12. Sermon &c.

M. 14. At Budock in the morning; in the evening about the Lease and Release of Allerdeen with Mr. Thomas. Read with Nancy.

T. 14. Par: duty. Rode in the morning. Review. Afternoon Par: duty. Wrote to my son Francis at Portsmouth in the Salisbury. Read with Nancy.

W. Looking into Xenophon. Mr. Pedgley called. Par: duty. Rode with Nancy and called on Capt. and Mrs. Wauchope. In the afternoon Par: duty at Budoc. E. read with Nancy. No Papers yet.

T. 17. Cannot recollect what I did.

F. 18. Began to transcribe my Papers. Prayers. Rode. Nancy. Memories of the French Academy. Nancy.

S. 19. A Sermon. Wrote to Mr. J. and Mr. T. D. Boswell.

M. 21. a little at my Papers in the morning. A. Nancy E. read.

T. 22. Papers &c.

W. 23. Papers &c. Rousseau. Xenophon. Now begin to do something as I could wish.

T. 24. Papers. Rousseau.

F. Papers. Rousseau.

S. Sermon. We dined at Mr. Scotts, to meet Mr. Harrington and his son Mr. Champernowne. They were our neighbours in Devonshire and are just returned from abroad.

S. 27. They invited themselves to dine with us. Their conversation amused me. Mr. C. a promising young man. Received them, tho' it was Sunday.

M. 28. Much interrupted all this morning. rode. Read with Nancy.

March

T. 1. Papers &c.

W. 2. Papers. Theophrastus.

T. 3. Papers. Theophrastus. What could induce Mr.

Wilkes to publish this author without throwing any new lights upon him by notes and illustrations. Mrs. Damer says it is not even correct. She pointed out several errors to Mr. Jerningham, who told me so. Led to learn Greek by her passion for Statuary. At breakfast reading Xenophons Cyropedia in Hutchinsons edition.—Must write to Clarke, to Jerningham.

4. The same.

5. Sermon.

M. 7. To Mr. J. Boswell. Memoires de l'Academie.

T. 8. No Papers to-day. Discomposed. Memoires de l'Academie.

W. 9. To my son Francis in the Salisbury at Portsmouth with a five guinea Bank Note to bring him down. To Mr. T. D. Boswell desiring him to call on Mr. Graham Secretary to Admiral Milbanke in Gr. Russell Street N^o 66 and pay him about eight pounds advanced by him to Frank at Newfoundland, and w^{ch} Frank ought to have paid himself out of 28 guineas he has had of me since his return to England. To Mr. J. Boswell. Prayers. No Papers to-day.

F. 18. To the 17th passed as usual to the 18th. Yesterday Mr. and Mrs. Beauchamp and Mr. Barker, Mr. Crowgey and Mr. Harris dined with us.

F. 18. To Mr. Weatherdon at Newton Abbot with a bill for £11. 14. 0, on my son Robert's account. To Robert at the same time. Finished Anacharsis with Nancy. We began M. de Pauws, Recherches Philosophiques sur les Grecs.

T. 22. To Mr. Clarke at Amsterdam. To Mr. Jerningham and Mr. Boswell.

W. 23. To Mr. T. D. Boswell, drawing on him to James Wheble for 8. 17. 7. To Mr. J. Boswell with Mr. P. Letter. Sketch of the Reign of George the 3^d, imputed to Mr. Wraxal: favourable to Mr. Pitt, but ingeniously written, and upon the whole a fair account. Some new circumstances respecting the French Revolution not noticed by Mr. Burke.

S. 26. Frank came home to us from the Salisbury at Portsmouth. Nothing at Memoires de l'Academie.

April

4th. To Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Boswell with regard to Franks promotion.—Mr. Mrs. and Miss Richards drank tea with us. Paleys Charge; judicious enough: but would not adapting our Discourses to the Service of the Day, render them too uniform, and rather increase that inattention and listlessness he wishes to correct. The Lesson or Gospel would immediately suggest the intended Sermon and People would stay at home &c.

8. To Mr. T. D. Boswell.

W. 13. To Mr. Archdeacon Moor, inviting him to make my Vicarage in his way in his visitation.

F. 15. Doing a little to my Papers. We drank tea at Mr. Coodes. Conversation cannot possibly be entertaining in a country town: only losing two or three hours. Memoirs de l'Academie for some days past.

S. 16. To Mr. T. D. Boswell.

21. To Mr. Boswell, Mrs. Terrot, and Mrs. Forster, on her loss of her son Robert.

May

1. S. We drank tea at Mr. Bakers. Little amused. There cannot be any conversation in so confined a scene.

S. 7. To Sir F. Blake and Mr. Boswell about Frank.

M. 10. Rode to Truro to meet and dine with Archdeacon Moore. Drank tea at Killiow with Mr. Gwatkin. Some conversation with Mr. Whitaker: heated but not much amused: nothing pleasant in these publick dinners: shall not go again.

T. 19. Mr. Archdeacon Moore came to me about 12, dined and staid all night; on Friday we walked to look at the vestiges of the ruins of the college of Glassney. I then rode with him half way to Truro.

S. 21. Lent my Strabo to Mr. Whitaker who sent his man for it. Wrote a Sermon this morning against Religious Hypocrisy: induced to this by one of the Methodistical Saints being detected in stealing from his master: he was a woolcomber, stole his masters wool and yarn and then sold it to him again. The fellow was even regular at the monthly Communion, was praying and singing hymns late in the night of detection, and was to have preached for the first time on the Sunday. It seems, in a course of years he had defrauded his master to a considerable amount: wearing all the time the appearance of the most fervent devotion and being the most zealous of the Methodists.

S. 22. Wrote to Mr. Boswell and Admiral Milbanke to get Franks leave of absence prolonged.

M. 30. To Mr. Willoby acknowledging Allerdeens Martenmas Rent and Turnpike interest due Nov. 8th 1790.

June

S. 4. Mr. C. Powlett came from Hampshire to see Nancy.

M. 6. We all drank tea at Revd. Mr. Dillons on his marriage.

T. 9. Mr. Long, an ensign of the¹ Reg^t an acquaintance of Mr. Powlett's, Mr. Thomas Mr. Johns dined with us.

F. 10. Nancy and Mr. P. agreed to suspend their connection at least during his uncle's Life, who shews no alacrity in getting him one of the Duke of Bolton's Livings. Reading my dear friend Boswells Life of Dr. Johnson of which he sent me a copy.

14, 15, 16. Mr. Powlett, my son Frank, Nancy and Miss Coode and her sister Betty and myself made a little excursion to St. Michaels Mount and the Lands end. Saw the Mount to great advantage, the weather being fine and the water in. A highly picturesque object, owing both to its spiral figure and being surrounded by water. Its rough and

* A blank space has been left for filling in the name of the regiment.

rocky surface well adapted to its situation. Its present owner much attached to it living much there with a beautiful woman of low degree, but greatly accomplished by his care. Went a little out of our road to see¹ a Living held by Mr. Powlett's uncle; it is pleasantly situated, looking towards the Mount, the Bay and Penzance. Dined at Penzance. Mr. Cummings, Nancys Musick Master, drank tea with us and walked and shewed us what was worth seeing. We drove to the Lands end, the L.¹ rock and returned by Cape Cornwall. Something highly romantick in the wild and extravagant clusters of rocks both at the Lands end and the L.¹ rock. Returned to Penzance to dinner. Mr. Cummings was our guide and dined with us. We could not refuse supping with him. Next day we set out and came home by Clocon and Tehiddy park, neither of w^{ch} have any thing remarkable. Near the Rev. Mr. Bassetts house the wheel of one of our chaises broke in pieces and we should not have known what to have done had not Mr. Basset very politely sent his carriage to convey us to Penryn. This little excursion was very pleasant one, the scenes peculiar, and the girls in high spirits and good humour.

22. Mr. Powlett wishing to have a dance, Major Cornwallis, Ensign Long dined with us and we went to the assembly, w^{ch} did very well.

25. We dined by invitation at Mr. Bakers, with Jo and John Richards.—Mr. Powlett preached three times for me, once at Budock and twice at Gluvias: his manner highly pleasing and unaffected. We drove out several times in a Gig he brought with him to Carcleugh,² Trefusis, Tremow, Nenwarnes, Pengerick &c.

M. 27. He and my son Francis set out for Portsmouth making St. Martins and Looe in their way. A most amiable and ingenious young man and whom I must ever highly value, and to whom I cannot but wish my dearest Nancy to be united.

¹ Blank spaces left for filling in words.

² Probably Carclew.

W. 29. Dined at Mr. Crowgeys with the Duke and Duchess of Leeds, and Miss Anguish &c. They had been at the Scilly islands, of w^{ch} the Duke is proprietor and Governor and came to Penryn upon account of their influence there, his Grace making one of the Members: he seems pleasant and agreeable and the ladies equally so: I thought they appeared diverted with Penryn manners.—Doing nothing; and much dissatisfied with myself. Never so remiss, so idle.

T. 30. Dined at the Rev. Mr. Peards with the Duke and Duchess of Leeds, Miss Anguish Capt. Salisbury and a very numerous company: quite an election dinner, very tiresome, no conversation to amuse. His Grace did not strike me as a man of parts or force of mind.

* * *

a Pamphlet on a weak and indecent attempt of the Three Princes to raise money on the Dutchy of Cornwall &c. &c.

July

4th. To Mr. Boswell, Revd. Mr. Baron. Life of Johnson. Voyage de Wheler.

2 & 3d. Mr. Butcher, Franks acquaintance dined and slept. Much discomposed by —'s[†] ill-humour and perverseness: *yeaps do not μπρονε ηερ τεμπερ.*

T. 5. Cannot boast of having done much to-day. Mr. Jacksons family and Mrs. Greens drank tea with us. In the evening read a little in Wheler: in the morning accounts.

F. 7. Inquiry into the Life of Homer. Does not contain what I thought on reading it at Cambridge.

to 23. Still amusing myself in Boswells Life of Johnson and in Wheeler. The weather prevents my applying to any thing with vigour. How Life is passing away, alas unimproved.

21, 22. Bathed yesterday and to-day. My wife reading the simple story to me at night: a strange unnatural thing.—

[†] Mrs. Temple's seemingly.

Nancy having a friend with her (Miss P. Peters) prevents our readings.—I think I have now done all I can to this place. Restored it to its natural state by levelling and pulling down. Oppressed for want of conversation and some variety. No one near to associate with.

27. *W.* To Sir C. Hawkins on his being created a Baronet. Still Wheelèr. Boswell.

F. 29. To Revd. Mr. Baron, Mr. Weatherdon. To Mr. Boswell.

August

M. 1. To the Right Hon:^{ble} H. Dundas about Frank. To Mr. J. and Mr. D. Boswell.

W. 3. Transcribing character of J.

Strange I should do so little, having so few interruptions! a hundred petty trifles steal away our time. To-day Frank was off Falmouth in the Salisbury in her voyage to Newfoundland with Admiral Milbanke and Capt. Pellew, but they could not land.

T. 4th. Renewed the bounds of the Parish of Gluvias and dined with the Parishioners at Little Pascoe at Simon Trevenas. Sixteen years since last renewed. A very fine day: on horseback from nine till four: rather a fatiguing business but necessary to prevent Litigation.

F. 5, 6. To Sir Francis Blake about Frank. To Mr. Gwatkin on the same.

M. 8. Bathed.—Bathed for the fourth time.

FOURTH DIARY

Introduction

Temple's diary for 1793, like that for 1796, is written on folio sheets which are thin and have crumbled away a little in the right-hand corners. In the case of the earlier diary this 'perishing' of the manuscript has not materially affected its legibility. The survival of two or three letters in a well-spaced line has generally been sufficient to suggest the obvious missing word; and in cases in which the whole word has fallen out of the leaf a probable substitute for it has been enclosed within oblong brackets.

A passage in this diary describing a painful incident in Mrs. Temple's fatal illness it has been thought advisable to suppress as being too intimate for publication. It runs to 208 words only, and the place at which it occurs is indicated by asterisks. Otherwise the diaries are reproduced verbatim and literatim, in their original punctuation, and with cancelled or obliterated entries restored as far as possible. The diarist's arbitrary employment of capital letters has been respected; and his incorrect dates, though often corrected in the introductions to the various diaries, have not been tampered with in the text.

In the note introducing this diary Temple describes it as a 'Diary of my Studies continued from a former book Green Vellum 4to.'. This 'former book', which presumably contained his diary for 1792, has disappeared; for no note-book bound in 'Green Vellum' is included in the Temple papers which are in the possession of Mrs. Powlett. The disappearance of this diary is the more to be regretted as it would presumably contain an account of the visit which James Boswell and his two elder daughters, Veronica and Euphemia, paid to St. Gluvias, a visit which is only scantily illuminated by one or two passages in Nancy Temple's letters to Miss Peters.

Particulars of the lives of the Bishop of Durham (the Hon. Shute Barrington), the Archbishop of Canterbury (Dr. John Moore), Bishop Watson, and Bishop Horsley will be found in *The Dictionary of National Biography*, to which authority readers are accordingly referred. The same work also includes biographies of Sir Francis Basset, William Gilpin (the originator of 'the picturesque tour'), the Rev. John Whitaker (the historian of Manchester), Davies Giddy (President of the Royal Society), the Rev. William Gregor (the mineralogist), and the Rev. Christopher Wyvill (the advocate of Parliamentary Reform). The best short account of Metastasio, the Italian improvisatore and dramatist, is that contributed to the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* by the late John Addington Symonds.

Inasmuch as the life of the Rev. Christopher Wyvill contained in *The Dictionary of National Biography* fails to stress his association with Boswell and Temple, I give a few salient facts of his career selected from the *Dictionary* and from Boswell's letters. Wyvill was a member of a wealthy old Yorkshire family, the great-grandson of Sir William Wyvill, the 4th baronet, and the first cousin of Sir Marmaduke Asty, the 7th and last baronet. He was born in 1740 at Edinburgh, where he met Boswell and Temple when they were fellow students at the University in 1757. Educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, he subsequently took orders and, through the influence of his cousin, Sir Marmaduke, was appointed somewhere about 1766 Rector of Black Notley, near Braintree, Essex, which living, residence not being legally required of an incumbent until 1808, he administered through a curate down to September 22nd, 1806. In the autumn of 1767 he was one of the three persons—Lord Hailes and Temple being the other two—to whom Boswell entrusted the revision of his *Account of Corsica*. On October 1st, 1773, determined that her money should not go out of the family, he married his cousin Elizabeth Wyvill, the heiress, a woman who was a quarter of a

century his senior and who was described by Boswell two years later (June 6th, 1775), when she had attained the age of sixty, as 'very homely indeed'. In the same letter in which this candid description occurs Boswell writes to Temple: 'Wyvill bid me tell you he was sorry he could give you no aid on Church history as he has not studied it.' Wyvill's studies, indeed, were political rather than theological. In 1779 he was appointed secretary to the Yorkshire Association, which advocated Shorter Parliaments and the Equalization of the Representation; and it was he who drew up the great Yorkshire petition which was presented to Parliament on February 8th, 1780. On July 22nd, 1783, Mrs. Wyvill, who had brought her husband the large landed estates of the family in Yorkshire, died in London aged sixty-eight, and leaving of course no issue. Four years later (August 9th, 1787), Wyvill married again, his second wife being Sarah, daughter of J. Codling, by whom he had three sons and several daughters. A strong opponent of the war with the French Republic, he published in 1793 the correspondence that had passed between himself and the Prime Minister (Pitt) on the subject of Parliamentary Reform; while in 1794-5 appeared the six volumes of his *Political Papers* on the same subject, including letters from the Duke of Grafton, Lord Lansdowne, Lord Stanhope, Lord Holland, Charles James Fox, Major Cartwright, Sir George Savile, Bishop Watson, Capel Lofft, Dr. Priestley, Dr. Price, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Paine, William Mason, and Temple. In later years he devoted himself to preaching universal toleration and to supporting the Roman Catholic claims for emancipation. He died at his seat Burton Hall, near Bedale in the North Riding, in 1822 at the age of eighty-two.

Tillmouth Park, which Temple describes as one of the scenes of his own and of Mrs. Temple's early life, was the seat of Sir Francis Blake, Bt., Mrs. Temple's cousin, and was situated on Cornhill-on-Tweed, Northumberland.

In his account of Mrs. Temple's fatal illness Temple asks: 'Might not this painful engagement have had some effect on her body through her mind?' The reference obviously is to Nancy Temple's engagement to the Rev. Charles Powlett, junior, and, made on so solemn an occasion, seems to indicate that the father's objections to the engagement were shared by the mother.

FOURTH DIARY, 1793¹

January

Wrote & printed 265 copies of a Letter to the Clergy respecting the County Library & Observation on Popular Discontents & on Equality addressed to Theorists, Republicans & Levellers. Sent copies & wrote several Letters on the subject to the Clergy & principal Gentry of the County & to Mr. Burke, Mr. Wyndham, Mr. Dundas, Duke of Leeds, Bishops of Worcester, & Durham, the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Dined at Sir William Lemons with Mr. & Mrs. Gwatkin, Mr. & Mrs. Daniel, Col. Lemon, &c. Much conversation on the measures of Government & the opinions of the times. Sir W^m Lemon seems to think a Reform advisable even now. He, Sir F. Basset & Mr. Gregor franked the copies for me. Reading Homer & Horace with John during his holyday. Denina, Metastasio, & Intrigue du Cabinet, with Nancy: also teaching her Latin. Reading myself Necker du pouvoir Executif, L'Esprit des Journaux, Bishop of Durhams Charge, Gilpin on the Wye & his Three Essays.

Wrote this month to Revd. Mr. Nicholls, Mr. Jerningham, Mr. Claxton, Mr. Clarke, Revd. Mr. Baron, Rev. Mr. Whitaker (the antiquarian). Composed two sermons adapted to the Times. Mr. Giddy (high Sheriff) called & drank tea. Mr. Johns & Miss Coodes drank tea. Rode with John to Truro to the Library. Passed two hours among the new books.

W. 23. John & Frederick returned to Lostwithiel to school. 9-12 × 5-6 × 7-10 × 10-11.

M. 28. Accounts came this day that the King of France, Louis 16th was publicly executed; a horrible action, w^{ch} will entail eternal infamy not only on the actors in so shocking a proceeding, but on the whole French nation. He was

¹ Temple heads the Diary:

'Diary of my Studies &c continued from a former book (Green Vellum 4to) and some smaller ones.'

a virtuous & amiable prince, anxious to promote the welfare
subjects

of his people; his ruin seems to have been owing to this very cause, his resigning powers & rights w^{ch} were necessary to maintain his authority among a fickle, ungrateful & ferocious people. All Europe must regard this murder with horror. It must certainly be calamitous to that Country, rouse the

powers
 well-disposed to just vengeance at home & foreign princes to check the progress of men, who aim at conquest by the most treacherous methods, restrained by no principles religious or moral. Such villains will certainly meet their deserved punishment even in this world. What is the fate of our first Charles in comparison of this! Yet Charles was also an amiable & virtuous & pious prince. How dangerous it is to make concessions, to relinquish any part of power. One thing leads to another, till the whole fabrick is subverted. The really well meaning soon lose their influence, & are supplanted by the sanguinary & the unprincipled, men who have nothing to lose, & may gain by the general anarchy. This was the case in our own Country formerly, as it is now in France. It is impossible to conjecture what these madmen will do next. Perjury, villainy of every kind is united in this tragedy. I fear the writings of Voltaire & those called philosophers may have forwarded this revolution in the minds of the people. O Vanity, O Singularity, what evils have ye produced! Let us rather multiply than remove restraints on the minds of the multitude. O Rousseau, O Voltaire, how would you blush to have such wretches for your disciples!

Memoires de la Minorité de Louis XVth par Massillon. I do not think them genuine; they are not in his manner, and the Notes &c. are by some wrong-headed democate.

W. 30. Wrote to Sir C. Hawkins, Mr. James Boswell, Mr. David Boswell & Mr. Davidson. Rode to Flushing with Miss Peters. In the evening in the Parish about the Church and Poor-rates. Mr. Powletts Sermon on Specula-

tive opinions & his poem, called Casino, both do him credit. Strange how little one does!

T. 31. Rode to Truro to the Library-meeting. Only Mr. Enys & myself; could not muster a committee; returned without having done any thing. Mr. Gwatkin, Mr. W^m Gregor & Mr. Joseph Richards dined with me. Little conversation.

February

F. 1. To Mr. Powlett.

S. 2. Composed a sermon relative to the murder & shocking catastrophe of Louis 16th. More savage, more unmerited than even that of our Charles the First; but the French, in all their civil dissensions, were always Barbarians, cruel & bloody & ferocious; punishment & the vengeance of Heaven hangs over them.

S. 10. Wrote to Mr. Boswell, Sir C. Hawkins, Mrs. Gwatkin, Sir F. Blake. Copies of the Pamphlet to Bishops Watson, Horseley &c.

M. 11. For some days writing a long Letter of 18 pages to Mr. Gwatkin in reply to one from him covering an anonymous one respecting my pamphlet. Reading Necker & translating large passages to send with my answer to Gwatkin, as he does not read French.

W. 13. To Mr. T. D. Boswell. Discomposed by the usual cause. What a divine virtue is a mild, good, gentle temper!

F. 15. To Sir C. Hawkins.

T. 19. Miss Coodes & Mr. J. Johns & Mr. E. Penwarne & Miss Murray dined & suppt with Nancy & Miss Peters. Translating passages of Necker to accompany my Letter to Mr. Gwatkin.

F. 22. To Mr. T. D. Boswell relative to the defenceless state of the coast, Pendennis &c. & desiring him to mention it to Mr. Dundas.

S. 23. To Mr. T. D. Boswell, & to Mr. Gregor, member for the County, proposing to raise 200 men, provided Government will furnish arms.

T. 28. Rode with Mr. George to Truro to the Library meeting. Called in our way on Mr. Gwatkin at Killiow. Mr. G. had rid out. Mrs. G. shewed us a thick quarto, Dutch, French, Latin & English full of small engravings (not ill done) w^{ch} first gave her Uncle, Sir Joshua Reynolds, an idea & taste for drawing. Many of the engravings are scratched on the side with a black lead pencil. His name is frequently scribbled on the inside of the cover: it is a curiosity. Mrs. G. often heard her uncle mention it. Ordered several books. Returned to dinner at 5.

March

F. 1. To Mr. Gregor in answer to one about independent companies.

T. 5. Dr. Gould from Truro dined with us, having sent for him on account of my wifes illness.

Sketches of the Religion, Manners &c. of the Hindoos.

S. 9. Dr. Gould visited my wife & dined with us. Wrote to Frank & Mr. Rannoc at Jamaica. To Mr. Strange at Halifax, Nova Scotia.

T. 11. My wife still continues very low & weak: a kind of slow fever. Received a letter from Mr. Wyvill covering his Letter to Mr. Pitt, w^{ch} I cannot approve: ill-timed, presuming, & in some degree a breach of confidence, yet he writes to me 'I feel more satisfaction from having taken this step, than almost any which I ever have taken, since I first embarked in politicks. Yet, if you, my good friend, should think I have not attended sufficiently to the rules of propriety & decorum, I shall be both sorry & diffident of my own judgment.' This to be sure is flattering; but I cannot think as he does.

Thursday 14th. The most melancholy day ever happened to me. This morning about 20 minutes after eleven my beloved wife was taken from me and my dear children. We had lived six and twenty years together, being married the

6th of August 1767 at Berwick by the Rev. Mr. T. Thorpe, Vicar of that [town].

She had been ill about three weeks, but her apothecary, Mr. Street, and her physician, Dr. Gould never gave us any idea she was in any danger till about half an hour before her decease. It being totally unexpected I was struck with horror. It began with loss of appetite, universal coldness, complaint in her bowels and stomach, perpetual reachings so that no thing would stay on her stomach, pain in her side, breast and in all the muscles. Most of these were subdued, but then succeeded want of sleep and great difficulty of breathing. Dr. Gould suspected a paralysis and seemed to think the vital powers were totally decayed and worn out, yet she was but 46, and never been what one would call ill before. I thus speak of her to my dear friend Boswell in a letter of this S. 16 day:

I never knew till now how dearly I loved her, more indeed than words can express. She had her failings (as we all have), but they were forgot in her many excellent and amiable qualities. Denying every thing to herself, grudging nothing to others; temperate even to abstemiousness; naturally indolent, yet never deficient in what concerned her children and family; submitting to give pleasure, tho', I fear, little susceptible, perhaps averse to it; wishing for no enjoyments but those we afforded her, and rather *enduring* company than deriving any satisfaction from it; frugal and retentive in matters of small moment, but truly generous when duty or propriety required it; if I may say so, of a most magnanimous mind. The loss of upwards of 1200 she bore without a murmur, and, perceiving it would gratify me, generously and affectionately even proposed that I should allow £40 a year to my poor, reduced sister. (I should have said too that she scorned any marriage settlement, relying, throwing herself intirely upon me.) I fear her bodily temperament affected her mind and indisposed it for placid

enjoyments; highly excitable, every thing affected her in an extreme degree; but rather what was *disagreeable* than what was *pleasant*; indeed she has often said to me, that she had little satisfaction in existence. Yet her spirits were always good. She was of a proud spirit, in a good sense of the word, [and] would court no person, nor disguise her sentiments. Since you were here last summer I think I have perceived a gradual change in her countenance. The springs of life have been slowly decaying, and her physician said there was a total suspension or decay of the vital powers. Perhaps there was even a paralysis of the heart, owing to some disagreeable agitation. Thus do our minds sometimes act on our bodies and take us away from those we love and who sincerely love us. I fear this blow will make a lasting impression on my heart and that I shall not easily recover it. She was but six and forty. Think how much longer we might have been blessed in each other's society! Every day, every hour I shall feel the want of her prudence, her advice, her assistance. You can feel for me, for you know what it is to lose such an associate, such a friend.¹

I fear I have some reason for blaming myself. In my transports I could not help sometimes expressing dissatisfaction at her coldness. Her insensibility of temper sometimes excited my impatience. But our little coldnesses resembled those of lovers, which we were to the last.²

* * * *

Might not this painful engagement have had some effect on her body through her mind. I could never observe any symptom of . But once I
 She owned to it that, when once engaged, she
 any should recall.³ She seemed to have no

¹ The quotation from the letter to Boswell seems to end here.

² Two lines, as being of a too intimate character, have been suppressed after 'last'.

³ A determined attempt has been made to obliterate the passage which begins with 'Might not' and ends with 'should recall'. Probably the Rev. Charles Powlett is responsible for this mutilation of the Diary. He would naturally resent the reflection on his engagement.

satisfaction in food, in company, in exercise. If we rode out and it happened to blow or a shower overtook us, it affected her in the most disagreeable manner; this made her latterly leave it off intirely. She was always cold, and said even the fire did not make her uniformly warm. She seemed most pleased when sitting by the fire, with her clothes resting on her knees, and musing. Though disliking company so much, yet she was always entertaining, lively, and sensible. She had read a great deal both by herself and to me; [and she] remembered [and] could introduce and apply it very properly. She had a very quick discernment and soon discovered the weaknesses and defects of those she conversed with.

Her physician and apothecary erred greatly respecting the nature of her complaint and lulled us into a fatal security. She was a much better judge than they were and said little, lest she should alarm us.

She certainly believed herself in danger from her anxiety for medical assistance, in which, in health, she never confided. The sudden fall of her pulse from 85 (its general beat) to 25 ought to have indicated something extraordinary. She had always been liable, subject to violent beating of the heart: we absolutely heard them. The dryness in her mouth, her difficulty of breathing, her desire of continual change of posture, might have taught them that dissolution was not far distant. Yet owing to the assurances of Gould and Street I imputed her complaints to low spirits, to which those in slow fevers are remarkably subject. Her weakness was certainly extreme and the immediate cause of her death, an *effort*, for immediately afterwards she said to Nancy and me, '*Now it is all over*'. Still incredulous and misled, I replied, 'Good God! Why will you frighten us?' In about ten minutes after she breathed her last sigh. Never did her countenance look more soft, more amiable. We were struck with astonishment and horror, the blow being intirely unapprehended. So little did we think of this fatal blow that

only a quarter of an hour before Nancy was sitting working in the window and I took up a volume of Lord Chesterfield's Letters and was turning over the leaves and began to read in her great chair. She had expressed a desire to see our apothecary.

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Presently Street came in. I said she had not closed her eyes all night and the anodyne had no effect. He took her hand and held it in his; looking very significant, as if it was all apprehension, said the anodyne would have its effect presently, that the blister had risen, and desired us to give her some caudle. She tried to swallow, but could not. He then, and I believe not till then, saw her danger. Nancy and I were in an agony of grief, which we expressed by correspondent looks, words and gestures. Street would have forced Nancy away, but she said I will not leave my dying mother. I said Let her alone. My beloved, the darling of my heart for six and twenty years, ceased to breathe without the smallest effort. I never saw her countenance more soft, more mild, more heavenly. You could not even perceive *when* she ceased to breathe. While she lay on her, our bed and in her coffin often did I kneel down by her dear remains and kiss her cold forehead and address [her] as if she heard me. I sent for John and Frederick from Lostwithiel. Nothing could [equal] their expressions of grief when they arrived on the Saturday. It was hours before I could pacify them. O how dearly did she love, how dearly was she beloved by them. When Octavius saw his brothers, I thought his little heart would have broke. During his Mamma's sickness he felt so much, exquisitely that he was afraid to come near her: he had never seen her ill before. The Sunday of her interment I asked them, if they would kneel down and kiss their mother's coffin. John and Frederick said in a flood of tears they could not, it would kill them. Octavius said I will see Mamma's coffin. I will kneel down and kiss it. I led him and Laura to the room. I thought

his little heart would have burst. He knelt down and kissed it several times, sobbing Poor Mama, bless me Mama, from Heaven. I could hardly force Laura away. Indeed she could neither sleep nor eat and was perpetually crying from the time her Mamma was taken ill. Apprehensive that Robert would suffer more than any of them, I sent for him from Newton Abbot in Devonshire. But when he came home, to our great disappointment, astonishment, he hardly seemed affected at all. Poor boy, his faculties, instead of growing stronger, seem to be weakened as he advances towards manhood. This is another great affliction, and indeed I know not how to dispose of him.

The effect of sickness on the mind through the body is amazing; it engrosses us intirely and prevents our thinking of attending to any thing but our own feelings. My dearest love said very little about the children, but perhaps her observing that we all thought her in no danger, made her suspect that she deceived herself, and thought herself worse than she was.

Since this melancholy event [I] could think of nothing but her, recollecting all the scenes of our early life at B[erwick], at Tillmouth, at Mamhead, conversations with her, opinions, sentiments, enjoyments, reading over all our letters from our first fond partiality, the many volumes she read to me both here and at Mamhead, communicating the mournful intelligence to our relations and friends, her brother and sisters, Sir Francis Blake and Miss Blake, Lord and Lady Lisburne, Sir Christopher Hawkins, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Claxton, Mr. Nicholls, Mr. Jerningham, Mr. Boswell, and Mr. D. Boswell, from all of whom I received answers full of sympathy and her praises, Mr. and Mrs. Powlett, Mr. and Mrs. Gwatkin, Mr. Baron, all of whom proffered to us visits of sympathy, comfort and consolation. But can I ever be comforted, or what can console me? Though fondly attached to her, I never thought her loss to me could be so great. Indeed it never once came into my thoughts

that I should lose her, and I always supposed that I should go first. Such uninterrupted health, such temperance, such digestive powers (she used to say smiling she could digest whatever she could swallow), her grandmother (Lady Blake) living to so great an age, upwards of 90. She surely was too careless of herself and presumed too much on the goodness of her constitution. Her beloved daughter recollected the following particulars, which she wrote down and which I desired her to transcribe into this book, being desirous of recollecting and recording every circumstance, however minute, respecting the darling, the beloved of my soul.

“The task you have given me, my beloved and now only Parent, is melancholy, yet I think it will in some measure soften my affliction (and never Daughter felt greater affliction) to relate minutely every particular of the illness of the Blessed Saint whose loss we do and ever shall deplore. On Tuesday the 19th of February we had some people to dine, and among other things at Table there was a ragouted breast of Veal, of which she ate much more heartily than she usually did and was in excellent spirits. But towards evening she complained of a pain in her bowels and went to bed far from well. However in the morning she seemed much better, though the diarrhea still continued. She did not eat much breakfast, but that she seldom did, and we were not surprised at it. At half after ten she was again seized with a pain in her bowels and a violent shivering. She said it seemed as if cold water was incessantly pouring down her back. She got all the things we could find laid upon her and warm water to put her feet into, but all to no purpose for several hours. She said from the beginning she had a very uncommon fluttering in her heart at times, and when that ceased a most disagreeable heat succeeded with a weight and heaviness she could not get the better of. In the afternoon we were dreadfully alarmed, fearing the veal she had eaten the day before was dressed in a copper stew-pan and had im-

bibed some of its poisonous quality. But upon Mr. Street's laughing at that idea and saying the pain would be much more excruciating we were in some measure satisfied and hoped the complaint was only temporary, though she frequently said during the day she could not account for the astonishing change there was in her pulse, the strokes being scarcely perceptible, and before it usually beat eighty-five. The day after, which was Thursday, she was a great deal better, though very far from well and could not get up till near dinner time. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday till about six o'clock she seemed much recovered, and we flattered ourselves she would soon be quite well. On Sunday evening about six o'clock a most alarming faintness came on, and she said she was dying. Happily for us Mr. Street was here. If we had not God only knows how fatally it might have ended. Caudle with a good deal of brandy and wine in it was given to her, and by degrees the faintness went off. She told us afterwards she had never felt anything like it before; she had often fainted, but that it was always in a very different way from this. She still complained of a heaviness about her heart. Monday she was considerably better, but Tuesday a sickness came on which distressed her exceedingly and she wished to try what an emetic would do. Street gave her one and she appeared relieved by it and continued tolerably well all Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday till she went to bed, when an extraordinary numbness and want of feeling in her leg and foot came on and seemed to alarm her a good deal. She got out of bed and walked several times across the room and had her foot rubbed and put into warm water, but it did not go off for more than an hour. Street persuaded us this was the effect of the opium he had given her and was partly fancy; which we were willing to believe, as on Saturday she was up by twelve o'clock and came downstairs. At dinner she ate some tripe (Oh that fatal tripe!); but it seemed rather because she thought she ought to eat than from any appetite she had.

In the afternoon her spirits were considerably mended and she said she would go into the Kitchen and scold the Maid for her inattention in leaving the things so dirty. And this was the last time my beloved and ever lamented Mother saw a place she always hated to enter but thought it her duty to do so too, too frequently. She went to bed tolerably well, but on Sunday the 3rd of March she was seized with a most violent excruciating pain in her stomach and bowels. For twenty six hours she suffered the most dreadful agony that can possibly be conceived and expressed a wish to have Doctor Gould sent for; which was immediately done, and he came the Monday morning. A violent sickness accompanied the pain and even remained when that went off. She could keep nothing on her stomach all Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday but toast and water. Not even the medicines would stay. The nasty Castor oil Street gave her was up again in a minute. Monday the assistance of a woman was wanted, and she was ordered to stay with her all night, which was the first time in her life that she had any body to sit up with her. On the Sunday she was taken so violently ill, she would be dressed and come down stairs, hoping moving might give her some relief. She walked across the Parlour and looked out at the last window; but was obliged to return again to her room almost immediately, which she never left more. On Wednesday she was better but complained of a disagreeable pain in her side, for which Dr. Gould ordered a blister. And this seemed to give her ease. But she still talked of a heaviness in her heart and oppression on her breast. Thursday she appeared much better and ate some caudle several times, but when she got up I asked her how she did she said 'I surely grow weaker'. But Street persuaded us it was the nature of the complaint for people to fancy themselves much worse than they really were and even insinuated that she was always particularly low when anything ailed her. And this we were anxious to believe. How fatally were we all mistaken! Street still persisted in

saying her malady was a slow nervous fever, though Dr. Gould said positively she had not the least fever. Friday, though still very weak and low, we thought her much better, as both the sickness and pain were much abated. Saturday she was even better than the day before and desired me to ask Dr. Gould, who was here, if she might eat a bit of meat when she felt inclined. He agreed to it and recommended a bit of broiled mutton. She did not wish to have anything that day but some caudle and seemed rather low, but she sat up four hours and did the same to the last day. Sunday she was in better spirits and ate a mutton chop with some appetite. In the afternoon she got up and sat in her chair four hours. I thought she looked remarkably well: her lips were so red and her eyes so clear. But all this was only a gleam of sunshine before a storm. About eight o'clock she desired to be undressed and just as she was getting into bed she complained of a sudden pain in her side, which appeared to make her very uneasy. She said she thought she should not sleep if an opiate pill was not given to her. She took it and about ten o'clock the pain ceased and she went to sleep. About twelve she waked again and was considerably better, said the load was gone off her heart and desired the person who was sitting by her to call the servants to wash. She soon got to sleep again and was very composed all night. In the morning she said she believed the effect of the opium was not gone off, as she still felt very drowsy and wished much to sleep again but did not complain of any pain. Her pulse still remained exceedingly low, and she would not eat anything but caudle, imagining her stomach had not sufficiently recovered its tone to bear meat. On Tuesday she was rather better, having, she told us, only a little pain in her shoulder and arm. In the evening she said she felt considerable pain in her right breast and a great difficulty in breathing, which Street thought nothing of. However, when Dr. Gould came on Wednesday, the pain and shortness of breath still continuing, he ordered another blister and what he called

a camphorated medicine, but seemed to apprehend no danger. She did not sleep a moment all Tuesday night and only five minutes the following one. Thursday the 14th of March (Oh, my dear Papa, what a day was that, Never, never will it be forgotten.) she seemed not worse, though greatly oppressed from want of breath, not being able to lie still a quarter of an hour at a time. She drank some tea at breakfast, but seemed very anxious for Street to come. At eleven o'clock or a few minutes after she wished to move. She did move and all was over. Oh, my ever-beloved Mother, what a Saint wast thou! My ever dear Father I can say no more. You saw her last moments. I cannot describe her looks nor my own feelings to you it is needless."

The ages of her children at the time of this melancholy event:

Francis Temple, 22 Years, 7 Months & 16 Days.

Anne Temple, 20 Years, 8 Months & 17 Days.

Robert George Temple, 18 years, 3 Months & 12 Days.

John James Temple, 16 Years, 4 Months & 18 Days.

Frederick Temple, 14 Years, except one day.

Laura Temple, 12 Years, 5 Months & 12 Days.

Octavius Temple, 8 Years and 11 Months except two Days.

April

My mind so oppressed. Unable to [compose] myself and to return to my usual mode of passing my time. Reading little and in no order. Mr. Powlett arrived the 5th at eleven at night, but without his mother. He staid with us from that time to the 15th of May. His amiable and enlivening conversation was of some use in dispelling the gloom that hung over my mind. Yet I sometimes felt hurt at being interrupted in the train of my thoughts and was vexed that anything could divert my attention from a loss so great and so unexpected. While he was with us we dined at Mr. Dillon's, Mr. Johns's, Captⁿ Wauchope's, and Mr. Gwatkin's of Killiow.

M. 20. Wrote a Sermon for the Fast.

To Sir Christopher Hawkins. To Mr. Weatherdon of Newton Abbot with my draught for £35 on Robert's account. To the Rev. Mr. Carrington with £15. 8. 0 for Licenses.

F. 25. Called at Killiow. Then proceeded to Truro to meet Sir C. Hawkins at the County Library. Then returned to dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Gwatkin. Mrs. Gwatkin gave me engravings of her uncle Sir Joshua Reynolds, Dr. Johnson and Beattie.

Wrote to Mrs. Terrot¹ about her son's taking orders.

28. To Mr. Willoby about Allerdean rent.

29. To Miss More and Mr. Cadell about Miss More's pamphlet respecting the French Clergy in England. Got 150 subscribers to it.

T. 31. Rode to Truro with Mr. George to the Library Committee. Asked to dinner by Mr. Gwatkin, Mr. Daubaz and Mr. Carlyon, but chose to come home. O the frailty of human nature! How soon are the strongest impressions weakened! Very unhappy.

To Mrs. Gwatkin at Bath to recommend a school for Frederick where he may learn French &c.

¹ Temple had written previously to Mrs. Terrot in November 1787, and in April 1791. She was, presumably, the wife of the Captain Terrot mentioned four times in the diary for 1783.

FIFTH DIARY

Introduction

TEMPLE'S diary for 1795, which is devoted exclusively to an account of his three months' visit to Norton Nicholls at Blundeston, is entered in a note-book just twice the size of those in which the first two diaries are contained. The covers of the book are a light buff, and the paper is of good quality and still quite strong. There are many blank pages, and some of these are filled with copies of letters written by the Rev. Charles Powlett junior to his friends.

In this diary, as in the earlier ones, Temple's dates are often obviously inaccurate. His rendering of proper names is also as eccentric as ever. The fact that he spells a name correctly six times running affords no guarantee against his spelling it incorrectly the seventh time. Consequently, Lord Feilding appears once at least as Lord Fielding, General Johnstone is alluded to several times as General Johnston, Mrs. Leathes makes her *congé* as Mrs. Leath, and similar liberties are taken with the names of Captain Peachell and Viscount Milsington. It is only fair, however, to Temple to admit that, frequently as he has occasion to mention members of the Townshend family, he never once omits the 'h' from their name. Why he persists in calling Sir Thomas Beauchamp Proctor out of his name and in styling him Sir Thomas Beauchamp in defiance of that Act of Parliament (18 George ii) by virtue of which Sir Thomas's father, Sir William, assumed the surname and arms of his maternal uncle, George Proctor, I am unable to explain.

William Robert Feilding, styled Viscount Feilding, was the eldest son and heir apparent of Basil Feilding, 6th Earl of Denbigh, and was born on June 15th, 1760. He was (Tory) M.P. for Beeralston from 1780 to 1790, and for Newport,

Cornwall, from 1790 to 1796. An officer in the Army, he raised the 22nd regiment of Light Dragoons in 1794, of which he was Colonel till his death. On April 26th, 1791, at St. George's, Hanover Square, he married Anne Catherine daughter of Thomas Jelf Powis, of Berwick House, Salop, and Moreton Hall, Cheshire, a girl of nineteen. He died on August 8th, 1799, at Newcastle. His widow survived him over half a century, dying at Rossall on January 1st, 1852. Their son, William Basil Percy Feilding, the 7th Earl of Denbigh, was born on March 25th, 1796.

Thomas Charles Colyear, styled Viscount Milsington from 1785 till he succeeded to the Earldom of Portmore on November 15th, 1823, was the eldest son and heir of William Charles Colyear, 3rd Earl of Portmore, and was baptized on March 30th, 1772, at St. Marylebone. He was Colonel of the North Lincolnshire Militia and became M.P. for Boston in 1796. On May 26th, 1793, he married Lady Mary Elizabeth, only daughter of Brownlow Bertie, 5th Duke of Ancaster, by his second wife, Mary Anne, daughter of Peter Layard. She, Lady Mary, was born on July 24th, 1771, and died on February 10th 1797, at the Hotwells, Bristol. Her only child Brownlow Charles Colyear, born August 4th, 1796, died at Rome unmarried on February 18th, 1819. The Earldom of Portmore consequently became extinct when the 4th Earl died on January 18th, 1835.

William Craven, eldest son of William Craven, 6th Baron Craven, was born on September 1st, 1770, and succeeded his father on September 26th, 1791. On June 18th, 1801 he was created Viscount Uffington, Berks, and Earl of Craven, co. York, the Earldom being a second creation in the family. He was a General in the Army, Recorder of Coventry, and Lord Lieutenant of Berkshire, and, when Temple met him in 1795, a bachelor. He shone, however, in, or perhaps I had better say he was eclipsed by, the reflected glory of his female relations. His mother, Lady Elizabeth Berkeley,

daughter of Augustus, 4th Earl of Berkeley, married three weeks after her first husband's death, Christian Frederick, Margrave of Brandenburg Anspach and Bayreuth, devoted herself for many years to the production of 'private theatricals', and survived her son, dying on January 13th, 1828. His sister-in-law, Elizabeth Brunton, who married Captain Merry, 'Della Crusca', in 1791, and his wife, Louisa Brunton, whom he married on December 12th, 1807, were sisters and well-known actresses. Brunton père was for many years proprietor of the Norwich Theatre. His daughter Louisa, who had played leading parts in comedy and tragedy at Covent Garden between October 25th, 1803 and the beginning of December 1807, was according to Mrs. Charles Mathews a young woman of 'surpassing loveliness' and was twenty-five when she married the Earl. Need I add that the Earl of Craven of the first creation married the ill-fated Elizabeth, Queen of Bohemia?

Charles Sloane was born on September 29th, 1728, and succeeded his father as 3rd Baron Cadogan on September 24th, 1776. He was M.P. for Cambridge from 1749 to 1754 and from 1755 to 1776. He was twice married. By his first wife, the Hon. Frances Bromley (daughter of Henry, 1st Lord Montfort), who died in 1768, he had six sons, including Charles Henry Sloane, who became second Earl Cadogan. By his second wife, Mary, daughter of Charles Churchill, from whom he was divorced in 1796, he had three sons and three daughters. Of this second offspring George became 3rd Earl, while two of the daughters, Emily Mary (born 1778) and Charlotte (born 1781), wedded husbands who were sons of Garrett, first Earl of Mornington, and brothers of the Marquess Wellesley and the great Duke of Wellington. Lady Emily Mary (married June 2nd, 1802) was true to her parson, the Hon. and Rev. Gerald Valerian Wellesley. But Lady Charlotte (married September 20th, 1803) was divorced by the Hon. Sir Henry Wellesley, G.C.B. (after-

wards Lord Cowley) in 1810 and shortly afterwards was united to Henry, first Marquess of Anglesey. Their father was created Viscount Chelsea, co. Middlesex, and Earl Cadogan on December 27th, 1800, and died on April 3rd, 1807.

For an account of Lord Townshend as professional soldier and as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland (1767-1772) the reader should consult the *Dictionary of National Biography*, and Lecky's *History of Ireland in the Eighteenth century*. George, 4th Viscount Townshend was born on February 28th, 1724, succeeded his father on March 12th, 1764, and was created Marquess Townshend in 1787. He married first on December 19th, 1751, Lady Charlotte Compton, only surviving child of James, Earl of Northampton, by his wife Elizabeth, Baroness Ferrars of Chartley. By this union he had four sons and four daughters including Lord Frederick Patrick, who was born on December 30th, 1767, took orders, and died on January 18th, 1836, and Lord Charles Patrick Thomas, who died on May 27th, 1796. Viscountess Townshend died at Dublin (September 14th, 1770) during her husband's viceroyalty. On May 19th, 1773, Lord Townshend married Anne, daughter and co-heir of Sir William Montgomery, Bart., of Magbie Hall, co. Peebles, by whom he had two sons and four daughters. The Lady Anne mentioned by Temple married Captain Harrington Hudson and died on November 29th, 1826. Her younger sister, Lady Charlotte, married on August 17th, 1797, the 5th Duke of Leeds's eldest son, the Marquess of Carmarthen, then aged twenty-two, who succeeded his father on January 31st, 1799. The Lord Chief Baron Montgomery, to whom Temple alludes, was presumably a baron of the Court of Exchequer, a Court which since about 1850 has been merged in the Court of Session. But Montgomery was *not* Lord Charles Townshend's uncle: there was no consanguinity between the two men. He was the brother of Lord Charles's

step-mother, the *Marchioness* Townshend. The Townshends are of course an East Anglian family; their country seat is Raynham Park, Norfolk.

The Vannecks are of Dutch extraction. Cornelius Vanneck was Paymaster of the land forces of the United Provinces. His second son, Joshua, became a wealthy London Merchant, and was created a baronet on December 14th, 1751. His eldest son Gerard, the second baronet, was M.P. for Dunwich from 1768 to 1790, and died unmarried on May 23rd, 1791. Joshua, the third baronet, born December 31st, 1745, reaped the reward due to his brother's support of administration in the House of Commons, and on July 9th, 1796, was created an Irish peer with the title of Baron Huntingfield. Between 1753 and 1757 the Vannecks established, or rather regularized, their position as an East Anglian county family by making a double alliance with the younger branch of the Walpoles. On November 14th, 1753, Elizabeth, the eldest daughter of Sir Joshua, the first baronet, was married to the Hon. Thomas Walpole, second son of Horatio, first Baron Walpole of Wolterton, and first cousin to the famous Horace Walpole. On November 22nd, 1757, Margaret, Sir Joshua's third daughter, was married to Baron Walpole's third son, the Hon. Richard Walpole. The family seat of the Vannecks is Heveningham Hall, adjacent to the little village of Huntingfield and distant about three miles from Halesworth. The fidelity shown by the family to the prenomen of its founder is instanced by the fact that the fourth baron, who died in 1915, bore the name of Joshua.

Sir Thomas Beauchamp Proctor, 2nd baronet, was born on September 29th, 1756, was educated at Christ's College, Cambridge, and succeeded his father on September 13th, 1773. He married on March 5th, 1778, Mary, second daughter of Robert Palmer, of Sonning, Berks, by whom he had five sons and three daughters. He died on June 29th, 1827.

His widow survived him twenty years, dying on December 25th, 1847, aged eighty-eight. The Beauchamp Proctors became united by marriage with such well-known East Anglian families as the Bacons of Mildenhall, the Custances of Weston House, the Hobarts of Blickling, and the Wodehouses of Kimberley. Sir Thomas's sister Anne was married on January 28th, 1778, to Sir Edmund Bacon, 8th baronet of Mildenhall and Premier baronet of England. Bute Bacon, the first baronet (created July 29th, 1627), succeeded the Jerninghams in the seventeenth century as owner of Blundeston. I may add that the 4th Beauchamp baronet, Sir Thomas William Brograve, reversed the order of the family surnames as established by the 1st baronet. On July 9th, 1852, he assumed by royal licence the surname of Proctor Beauchamp instead of Beauchamp Proctor.

Sir William Jerningham, 6th baronet of Costessey (pronounced Cossey) Park, Norfolk, succeeded his father, Sir George, on January 21st, 1774. He married the Hon. Frances Dillon, daughter of Henry, 11th Viscount Dillon, another daughter of whom, Charlotte, was the first wife of the first Earl of Kenmore, a Catholic peer of course. Sir William died on August 14th, 1809, and was succeeded by his eldest son George William, the 7th baronet. Sir George managed in 1825 to procure the reversal of the attainder of the Viscount Stafford who had been executed for alleged complicity in the Popish Plot and became 8th Baron Stafford. The Jerninghams have always been a Catholic family and claim to be of Danish origin, the old spelling of their name being Jernegan.

Mr. Windham, of Earsham House, must not be confused with his distinguished kinsman, Mr. William Windham, the statesman, Secretary for War from 1794 to 1801, who lived at Felbrigg Hall and did not marry till 1798. Nor, I think, must Mrs. Montagu of Gunton Hall be identified with Mrs. (Elizabeth) Montague, the bluestocking, who in

1795 was seventy-five and who in any case, when she was in the country, lived at Sandleford, Berkshire, where the family seat had been re-built by her in 1781 from plans designed by James Wyatt, R.A., subsequently leader in that Gothic revival in which Temple, following Gray and Walpole, took such an interest.

Readers who would know something more about Norton Nicholls, Rector of Lound and Bradwell, and Robert Potter, Vicar of Lowestoft and Rector of Kessingland, than is contained in the accounts of these worthies rendered in *The Dictionary of National Biography* should consult the present writer's book *Edward Jerningham and His Friends*, where they will find ten letters of the former and thirty letters of the latter addressed to Jerningham. In the same work are included twenty letters of Lady Beauchamp Proctor written to the same correspondent.

The following entry in Nancy Temple's journal for 1793 furnishes the approximate date of the dispatch of John Temple to Eton and of Frederick Temple to some school at Bristol:

'Sept. 10th. The morning all hurry and confusion, preparing for my Father and Brothers to set out on their journey without me to London, John to Eton and Frederic to Bristol. My Father's motive for going is to press his Friend in Person to give my Brother a Lieutenancy.'

A M. de Soyres seems to have been headmaster of, or assistant master at, this Bristol school. In his diary for 1795 Temple records the circumstances that he called on him at Bristol on June 20th, and wrote to him on September 9th and 21st about Frederick's 'going to Mr. Wombwells'. Despite the discrepancy in the spelling of the names, I am inclined to identify this M. de Soyres with the M. de Soyne who was 'bear-leader' or travelling tutor to Viscount Mount Edgcumbe's eldest son, the Hon. Richard Edgcumbe (afterwards Viscount Valletort) in 1785. He is mentioned in

a letter written to Edward Jerningham by Lady Mount Edgcumbe on September 3rd, 1785, ten days before the 'Sola spes' (as Temple contemptuously calls him) came of age. And Horace Walpole, writing to Sir Horace Mann on August 4th, 1784, gives the following account of him:

'I even restrain myself from recommending the gentleman who travels with Mr. Edgcumbe; though I think him a sensible, prudent young man. I did recommend him to Lord Mount Edgcumbe. He is a youngish French Protestant, of a very good gentleman's family; and left the service on, I believe, an affair of honour. He was addressed to the Duke of Richmond and to me by the Prince de Bauffremont, in the strongest terms imaginable. He passed three years in this country in a manner that fully justified his character. He speaks and writes English well; his name is De Soynes. It was not in my power to serve him but in the manner I did; and he gives great satisfaction in his present situation. As the Mentor is so much a gentleman, I hope the Telemachus will give you no trouble.'

The Mr. and Mrs. Floyer whom Temple found domesticated with Nicholls and his mother at Blundeston House were presumably Mrs. Nicholls's brother, Governor Floyer, and niece, Maria Floyer. Included in the Temple papers, now in the possession of the Powlett family, are five letters written in French to Nancy Temple by Maria Floyer.

The General Johnstone whom Temple met on his visit to Blundeston was Lieut.-General James Johnstone, who in his younger days enjoyed the reputation of being the handsomest man and the best master of his weapon in the army. He married in 1763 the Hon. Henrietta Cecilia West, daughter of the 7th Baron (afterwards 1st Earl) De la Warr. Lady Cecilia Johnstone was a great friend of Lady Mount Edgcumbe, and both ladies figure more than once in Gillray's caricatures, where they are depicted as inveterate faro

players and superannuated demi-reps. But the General, a famous duellist in his youth, seems to have been too afraid of scandal to chastise the satirist. In his *Autobiography* Dr. Alexander Carlyle describes Johnstone as 'one of the best-natured men in the intercourse of friends that ever I met with'; and Temple seems to have been strongly attracted both to him and to his daughter, Mrs. Anderson. But the ten short notes to Edward Jerningham which this lady wrote between 1782 and 1792¹ can hardly be said to shew her in an engaging light. Nor has the well-known hostess who entertained Lord North to dinner one day and Dr. Johnson and Boswell the next much to say in her favour. Describing to her son, the future Earl of Malmesbury, the elopement of Caroline Johnstone with her father's former aide-de-camp Mr. Crawford Anderson of the Guards,² Mrs. Harris may of course have been anxious to attack the mother through the daughter; for, outside her own set, Lady Cecilia seems not to have been popular. This, however, is her judgment on the daughter:

'Miss J. is but sixteen years old, very pretty, tall, and genteel; but a most thorough chip of the old block—I mean her mother.'³

Of both father and mother Horace Walpole has a good deal to say in his letters.

In all his diaries Temple is very fond of using the abbreviation '&' for 'and'. In those for 1793, 1795, and 1796 he employs '&' almost invariably. In the transcript of the present diary this peculiarity has been consistently respected.

¹ See *Edward Jerningham and His Friends*.

² Under date of March 27th, 1780.

³ *A Series of Letters of the first Earl of Malmesbury, his family and friends, from 1743 to 1820*. Edited with notes by his grandson. 1870.

FIFTH DIARY, 1795

WHEN my friend Nicholls was here in August and September last, we engaged to make him a visit in Suffolk this year. Though inconvenient in some respects, yet my esteem and affection for Nicholls ruffled spirits, health rather disturbed than composed, and the persuasion of Mr. Gwatkin &c induced me to comply. We set out in an open carriage commonly called a Gig and one servant on horseback on Thursday the 11th of June 1795 concerned on account of Robert & Octavius and Frederic's holidays at Bristol. Got to Exeter on Friday 12th. Came to Mr. Archdeacon Moores where we were entertained till Monday. Walked with them to Mount Radford (Mr. Barings). Miss Barings pictures. Walked on Northernhay. Sunday heard Mr. Moore at the Cathedral. In the evening walked in Mr. Graingers garden made out of the town ditch. Major Shadwell supt with us this and last night.

June

Monday 15th. Went to Lewell house to see Laura; dined there, in the Evening took Laura with us to Mamhead, Lord Lisburne's.

Tuesday 16. Lord L. took me in his Cabriole to view his improvements, after dinner we went in the Coach to Dawlish to see Lady Elizabeth Palk's children & see the new buildings there.

Wednesday 17th. Drove with Lord L. through Mr. Sweets grounds. Anne drove me to the New parsonage. We took leave and carried Laura back to Lewell; returned to Exeter. Bought a Gig &c for £25. 19. 0.

Proceeded from Exeter, Thursday the 18th. Forgot to mention that I walked with the Archdeacon on Sunday by the river & on the Bunney. The banks of the river steep and well wooded. Wrote to Mr. Claxton, Mr. T. D. Boswell, John, Mr. George. Highly pleased with the Tower to the

Church of St. Mary Magdalen at Taunton in Somersetshire; light, elegant; not so the Church. Some gateways, arches & other Remains of an old Castle. As usual no sooner set out than wishing to return: pining for the quiet, tranquillity & amusements at my vicarage. Mr. P. came to meet us. I knew nothing of this till the evening before we set out. Tower of the Church at North Petherton.

Friday 19th. From Taunton to Cross, an uninteresting country.

Saturday 20th. To Bristol Hot wells. The country round highly picturesque, rock wood, water, gently swelling hills. Frederic met us in the street at Bristol. Dined with sister. In the evening we took a coach & called on Mr. de Soyres, Dr. Fox & Mr. Williams. Wrote to Claxton. A fatiguing day. Repent leaving home. Waste of time & money. Shall not be easily induced to undertake another journey. Tendency to flatulence.

Sunday 21. Walked to College or the Cathedral. In the venerable & impressive stile of all Gothick buildings. Did not like the service & musick so well as at Exeter. Dr. Chapman preached; not very discretely. Immediately after service drove to Bath to York House. Dined, walked in Queens Square, the Circus, the Crescent &c. Called on Mr. Mrs. & Miss Richards. Returned to Tea; one of the Mr. Chapmans staid & supt with us. Frederic is to pass the holidays with the family. Nothing can be richer than the Country about Bath: the ground pleasingly varied, fine wood. A very extravagant charge both at Gloucester hotel & York house.

Monday 22. From Bath to Chippenham the same rich scenery continued till you pass Calne when hill, valley, wood & every thing pleasing vanish at once & are succeeded by uninteresting uniformity. Seats, Bow-wood Marquess Lansdowns, Paul Methuens, Compton, Mr. Henages. In the evening came to Marlborough, & the Castle, now an inn, formerly a seat of the Dukes of Somerset; it is a curiosity

being almost the only remaining model of the old stile of laying out ground & a garden. Strait walks, hedges cut into shapes, an artificial mound with a winding walk to the top, taking you insensibly thither. Stands in a flat disagreeable country. The worse part of travelling is being at the Inns. it is difficult to amuse ones-self, one is tired & not much disposed to read. You pay exorbitantly for every thing & nothing so good as at home.

Thursday July first. Came to town on Tuesday June 30th to Mr. T. D. Boswells, where we dined. Called on Miss B. Sir C. H. drank tea with us. Much affected on entering Mr. B. house.

Wednesday July 1st. Breakfasted with Miss B^s. Conversation with them. Dined & drank tea with them. Anne supt. Thursday 2^d breakfasted with Mr. T. D. B. Called on Mr. Malone. Sat with the Miss B. till we set out at 12. From L. to Rumford, flat, insipid to Ingatestone. at distance swelling hills richly wooded. to Chelmsford the same. Saw the Tents from the road on Warley Common. Nothing can reconcile me to the fatigue of travelling; best by a good fire with books and maps. Loss of time, of money.

July 3d. Slept at Chelmsford, Witham, Colchester (a large town). Slept at Ipswich, a large town, well built. the races & soldiers prevented our going to the principal inn. Dined at the Coach and horses, w^{ch} being dirty & uncomfortable we went to the Play, the Wheel of Fortune, Cumberland's new Comedy. The Theatre, small but neat.—Saw Lixden Camp. The Country has a very military appearance; every town and village swarming with soldiery & you meet them every where on the road. Little variety in the prospect; very flat & level; distant hills sometimes enliven it; richly cultivated & well wooded. From Ipswich to Wickham Market 22 miles. Rained the whole way; could not say what the face of the Country looked like.—Still think y^t nothing one sees compensates for the fatigue, trouble & inconvenience one experiences in travelling;

I mean at home in England. In foreign travel there is more novelty & variety.

July 4th Friday. From Wickham Market to Yoxford 12 miles. Richly and carefully cultivated, wheat, pease, beans &c. The hay every where in melancholy plight owing to the late rain. Several Gentlemens seats. Mr. ¹

Sir J. Vannec: exceedingly proprietous: towns and large villages. Nothing striking in the appearance of the country.

Saturday July 5th. Arrive at Blundestone about 8 in the evening.

Sunday July 6th. At Church.

July 7th. Monday went unwillingly to a Ball & Supper at Lowestoft given by a Col. Baker: company chiefly officers from the Camp: among these, Lords Feilding, Craven & Milsentown. Lady Feilding an elegant figure with a most engaging countenance. Several Clergy there: rather a fatigue than a pleasure. Mr. Nicholls & his mother, Mr. Floyer & his daughter, Anne and myself returned about one: N, F & I eat some cold chicken, drank some wine & water & sat up till four.

Tuesday July 8th. Drove to Herringfleet Mrs. Leathes a comfortable house and pretty shrubbery laid out by N. Some good pictures & a fine one by Rubens.

Should have said we had musick at Col. Bakers; Mrs. B. & her sister sing & play uncommonly well.

Wednesday Dined at ² at Mr. Loves, Mr. Mrs. & Miss, Miss Long, Revd. Mr. ² an agreeable clergymans family, who seem to live comfortably in a comfortable house. Musick by Miss Floyer. Wrote J. Rowe. Life of Lord Herbert of Cherbury a 2^d time: a curious picture of the manners of the times. Duels in high vogue; success in them best recommendation to the Ladies; the more fellow beings you kill, the more they admire you: a species of devotion paid to the Fair. Yet with all this gallantry, much brutality. Lord H. himself a singular character, brave to rash-

¹ Name illegible.

² Blank spaces left for filling in names.

ness; learned, superstitious, vain, indefatigable, ostentatious, relates things of himself so extraordinary, that one cannot believe them, yet so enthusiastick that he certainly thought he spoke the truth. Say what they will, no times like our own.

Thursday July 9th. Several of N's neighbours dined here, Mr. and Mrs. Sp¹ & their son, Mrs. Greenside & her little boy, Mr. Hunt. Local conversation; little amusement; head ache.

Friday July 10th. Company at dinner Lord & Lady Feilding, L^d Milsington, Mr. Sm¹, Col. & Mrs.¹, Captain P¹ & Mr. & Miss S¹.

Some anecdotes and much musick. Lady F. a beautiful Grecian figure. When she came into the room, you would have taken her for a nymph. She sung and played with infinite taste and grace. Capt. Peachell was the best bred man & his conversation the most pleasing & interesting of any one in company. Mr. S's manner feeble & unimpressive. Irwin's Voyage up the Red Sea gives one a dreadful idea of the avarice, perfidy & villany of the Arabs, & of the contempt & even abhorrence in w^{ch} Christians are held by the Mahometans. It is to be lamented that all men had not the same rational notions of Religion; but it is hardly to be hoped that this will ever be the case. The votaries of different religions will always hate & persecute one another: their founders sow the seeds of antipathy & contempt, which fructify & produce a plentiful harvest.

July 11th. At home.

July 12th. Sunday. Did duty for N. at Lounde.

July 13th. Monday. Wrote to Mr. T. D. Boswell. Weather ever since our being here unseasonably cold. Wind North East. Thermometer² Fires in the evening; sometimes all day, as this day. So cold & the wind so high with a drizzling rain or rather sleet, could not venture to Yarmouth as we intended. Turning over N's books, some-

¹ Blank spaces left for filling in names.

² Blank space left for filling in the degrees.

times one, sometimes another. La Lande Voyage, Phillips to Botany Bay.

Tuesday July 14th. We drove to Yarmouth; the Key the most spacious I ever saw; the street also, in which stands the market place, very open & airy. A town of great trade; a great number of ships always there. The country round very flat & tame; the coast sandy & low & very accessible to an enemy; hence I suppose so many camps here. Voyage en Italie par La Lande, D'Alembert.

Wednesday July 15th. To Frederick. We all dined at ¹ with Lord & Lady Feilding: company Mr. & Miss Smires, Col. & Mrs. Baker, Capt. Roberts, aid de Camp. In the evening Lords Milsington & Craven & Miss Craven & ¹ came to tea. The Band played; Lady F., Mrs. B., and Miss S. played and sung. At 11 Mrs. N. and I came home & left them to dance. Some tolerable conversation at dinner, in w^{ch} indeed I joined but little. Lord F. more knowing than I supposed. Mr. S. rather clever, but his manner against him.

Thursday July 16th. Lord & Lady Feilding, General Johnstone, & his three aid de Camps Capt. Peachel, Shelly & ¹ dined here. The General quite an old Soldier, with the manners of a Courtier. What does conversation consist of? agreeable nothings: little characteristic anecdotes & stories: commendation of the wine, dishes &c. How little worth remembering or that can be remembered. At ten in the evening they all went to a ball given by Mrs. Mountagu at ¹, but I could not bear the thought of going, staid quietly at home, read a little & went to bed a quarter after eleven. I forgot to say that in the morning it being fine for the first time since our being here N., A., and I walked round the place which has great variety & altogether is a very pleasing & made the most of by my Friends taste & judgment. I then rode to Lowestoffe: a large fleet in the road; a fine sight.

¹ Blank spaces left for filling in the names.

Friday July 17th. To J. James at Eton. We went & called at Gunton-hall on Mrs. Montagu: then to Lowestoffe. Walked round N's place by myself, as much pleased with it as with him, when he walked with us & pointed out its beauties.

Saturday July 18th. Drove Mrs. N. to Lowestoffe. Wrote a long letter to Mr. Gwatkin at Killiow.

Sunday 19th. L^d & Lady Fielding called, breakfasted & went to Church with us. We then walked round the Place. I did the afternoon service. In the evening Anne, Miss F. & N. went and drank tea with L^d & Lady F., returned at eleven. I was not disposed to go to hear *such* Musick. They found there L^d Craven & his sister & Capt. & Mrs. Peachel.

Monday 20th. We all bathed at Lowestoft. Wrote to Octavius; then drove Mrs. Nicholls to Lowestoft. In the evening we rowed on the Lake till sun-set: nothing could be more serene & delightful. The harmony of the afternoon interrupted by a little altercation between —.

Tuesday 21. Wrote a long Letter to Mr. Archdeacon Moore at Hevitree, Devonshire. Rode to Lowestoft & called on Mr. Potter, who is the Vicar, Translator of Æschylus, an old, nervous, vain, communicative old man, who instead of books or Science talked only of himself. Disagreeable altercation after dinner between——. We drank tea at Wyats seat by the Lake; a charming evening, but the serenity of it disturbed by the ill temper of one & the sensibility of another.

Wednesday 22. Much disordered by yesterdays¹ which made me nervous this morning even to tears. N. a difficult part to act; to relieve us a little we rode five miles to see Mr. Compton but did not find him at home; caught in a shower. In the evening Mrs.¹, a talkative widow Lady, who thinks herself clever & Mr. Davis of Trinity college called. Dipping into Robertsons Hist: Disqui: on India; very dry. Do not feel comfortable.

¹ Blank spaces left for filling in words.

Esteem and love N. but such is my temper & habits & feelings, that I am fit only to be at home: never easy any where else.

Thursday 23d. To Mr. George, Penryn. Took a ride alone. In the evening so cold, we had a fire. Robertson & heard Miss Floyer sing and play: To-day past serenely enough.

Friday 24. Wrote to J. Rowe.

Saturday 25th. We dined at Yarmouth with Mr. Spurgeon. Company the Loves, Colonel Sibthorp. as usual; no conversation to remember.

Sunday 26. Did duty for N. at Lounde. Wrote to J. James, Mr. T. D. Boswell, Miss E. Boswell. In the evening Lord & L. Feilding came to tea; tiresome. Weather so cold with rain as to require a fire.

Monday July 27th. Delightful morning, sunshine. In going to Yarmouth I had two falls from my horse, owing to Anne's driving so fast. Hurt my face & lip a good deal. Returned home and sent to Listoft for Mr. Arnold, the apothecary, to bleed me. Shivering in the night in consequence. The mare fell the first time & cut her knees very much & started the second time. Must not be put out of her usual pace.

29 Wednesday. J. James came to us from Eton.

Thursday 30th. Mr. Loves Family, Capt. & Mrs. Peachell dined here. L^d & L^y Feilding, L^d Craven his brother & sister, & Capt. Roberts came to tea. Musick by L^y F, Mrs. P. & Miss Floyer. They walked round & rowed on the lake before Tea. Again at Ten by Moon light. Staid till near Twelve, rather fatiguing than amusing.

Friday 31st. Pallas's Voyages. They drank tea with L^d & L^y Feilding at Oulton-hall. We were not disposed to go. N. returned much discomposed & tired. Tired he said of the same musick so often: yet it is to be repeated here tomorrow on the Lake.

August 1st Saturday. Cold wind & rain. We had a fire

all day. Would not do for the Lake, so the party put off. Wrote to Lord Lisburne. Lord F. called.

Sunday, Aug: 2d. Staid at home, owing to my lip being troublesome.

Monday 3d. Long letter to Sir C. Hawkins at Trewithen. General Johnstone & two of his aid de Camps called. N., A., and Miss F. went to Lowestoft to botanize with Mr. Davis of Trinity College, a great botanist who also spent half a day with them here for that purpose last week. We dined N. & I at Belton with the Revd. Mr. Crompton: company Revd. Mr. Smires, Dr. Cowper of Yarmouth whom I remember at Cambridge, Capt. Hunt & his brother a clergyman, Col: Sibthorp. Dr. C. sillily talkative & heated with wine. Mrs. Crompton the only lady at dinner. Only one room both for dinner & tea. Small income & prudent: little conversation, yet the afternoon did not pass worse than such afternoons usually do.

Tuesday, Aug: 4th. To Mrs. S. Stowe at B.¹ This day past I cannot tell how. After tea we rowed on the Lake; calm & serene.

Wednesday August 5th. In the morning drove Mrs. N. to Lowestoft; returned a different way, some gentle rising & woody. Revd. Mr. Smires, Crompton, Col: & Mrs. Baker dined with us. They came to sing Marcello's Psalms: tolerable conversation but ² behaved in the most unaccountable manner indeed like one insane: never saw any thing like it: has great merit in bearing it as he does.

Thursday 6th. To Robert at Lostwithiel. N., Maria & Anne & John went to Yarmouth. To Mr. Willoby at B.¹ They did not return till near six. This occasioned some disagreeable conversation which lasted great part of the afternoon. Miss F. rowed us on the Lake.

Friday. 7th. To Mr. Baron at Lostwithiel.

Saturday 8. They went to the Play at Yarmouth, John for horses.

¹ i. e. Berwick.

² Blank space left for filling in a name.

Sunday 9th. Bp. Hurds Life of Warburton lent us by Mr. Potter the Translator of Æschylus. Somewhat stiff, but on the whole rather interesting. Do not see any thing to cry out at in what he says of Secker & Lowth. They were surely but ordinary men in comparison of Warburton. The one rather judicious than ingenious, the other rather specious & elegant than acute or profound. The time here, owing to N.'s irregular hours, passes away I cannot tell how, but in a constant hurry & bustle & with little improvement. On Sunday evening they drove to Oulton & drank tea with Lady Feilding. Every other morning they bathe, which consumes the best part of it. The generality think only of their own gratifications, especially children, with regard to their parents. Should this weaken affection; or is it only human nature? The longer one lives, I fear the more one is disappointed in every thing from which we fondly hoped for satisfaction.

Monday 10th. Mr. Moss's family dined here: a wealthy farmer managing his own estate, of uncultivated manners, affecting always to speak his mind, yet shrewd enough not to offend. His two nephews came to tea; they intended dinner, but J. James said we dined at five, w^{ch} made them too late. One at Oxford, the other at Eton with J. James. How discernible is the want of polish? It is only company that can give that facility & smoothness of manners. One pleasing, the other pert.

Tuesday 11. We all went to the Deanes near Yarmouth to see the Militia encamped.

reviewed by Lord Townshend. By means of Nicholls' intimacy with L^d & Lady T. stood by them & saw every movement to the best advantage. Lady T. a charming interesting countenance: Lord Charles & L^d Frederic appear amiable. A delightful day & very well amused: returned to dinner: in the evening rowed on the Lake. Oh! that we all possessed the same serenity! but D. never

¹ Blank space left.

tranquil, tormenting every one and herself, N. conceited, perverse & indiscrete: L. unequal, πεττεδ & σελfish.

Wednesday 12. What I foresaw has happened. What ενδ does it serve? τιμε lost. γρεατ εχπενσε. στραγγε τθατ I σhouλδ εχπεκτ μορε πλεασυρε ιν τθις τθαν ιν φορμερ αβσενσε. Something like summer to-day and yesterday.

Lord Cadogan & his two daughters called. L^d C. a strange vulgar looking man & his conversation as ordinary. The youngest Miss asked some silly questions. L^d Fred: Townshend came to stay. Much pleased and flattered. Begin to dislike those distinctions: insidious & discouraging to merit. What satisfaction when there is so great a disparity of years: not to mention loss of time.

Vanity overcomes many other weaknesses or passions: avarice, ill-humour &c: how stoop to such frivolous babbling. No judging of people—characters at first sight, nor till after long acquaintance: defects lie concealed till occasion brings them in view; so do virtues. It is wonderful how life is trifled away by the Generalty & alas how differently passed by men in different situations: by some in vice, or folly, by most in care & labour. Yet on the whole, perhaps the former are not happier than the latter. Is this really a preparation for another? How Few seem to think so! and will our rank & station there depend on the good we do here.

Friday 14. To Mr. T. D. Boswell, Mr. Langton at Norwich about J. J's going to Oxford. Lord Charles Townshend came to breakfast: He, his brother L^d Frederic, Sir Edmund Bacon, Mr. & Mrs. ¹ of Norwich, Revd. Mr. Forster, who travelled with Lord Bristol's son, Mr. Sparrow dined here. Mr. & Mrs. ¹ a sort of characters. Much conversation with L^d C. about Edinburgh where he lived eight or nine years with his uncle Lord Chief Baron Montgomery.

17 Monday. We dined at Herringfleet Mrs. Leathes:

¹ Blank space left for filling in names.

company General Johnstone, Capt^s Drury & S^r,
Mr. Bonus, Sir¹ Some amusing conversation.

Tuesday 18. We set out Nicholls, Lord Frederic Townshend, Miss Floyer, Anne & myself for Norwich. Stopt at Langley, Sir Thomas Beauchamps. A pretty shrubbery laid out by N., a flat country but rich in wood. Ice, fruit & cold meat: & requested to dine (14 miles). Dreary country till you pass the marsh and the Waveney that separates Suffolk and Norfolk. This is before you come to Langley. Country from L. to Norwich gently swelling with Wood and rich corn fields. The entrance to N. striking; it stands high. In the evening walked to the Castle; Saxon & built in the year 1000; now serves as a County jail: an addition made to it in a bad stile.

Wednesday 19th. We drove to Cossey Sir W^m Jerninghams: but first looked at the Cathedral & Bishop's palace: Gothick, round arches, superior in extent, grandeur & lightness to Exeter or Durham. The palace has two tolerable rooms & a good town garden. Delighted with Cossey. A drive of five miles through woods & plantations, the grounds finely broken, swelling hills of beautiful forms, a valley with a sweet stream; a Tower commanding an extensive view: every feature & object in this scene beautiful & enchanting: also laid out by N. The house does not correspond, being old and ill-placed: a foreman has made some bad additions. Returned to Nor: to dinner. As we were going to the Cathedral in the morning we met Mr. Langton & two of his sons. He engaged us to supper. Conversation about John's going to Oxford. A fine family. I never saw Mr. L. so entertaining in conversation before: engrossed chiefly by him & N.

Thursday 20th. St. Andrews hall. St. Peters Mancroft: the arches lofty and well proportioned. Passed two hours with Mr. Pitchford, a surgeon, catholic & great botanist.

Returned according to engagement by Langley and dined

¹ Blank spaces left for filling in names.

with Sir Thomas & Lady Beauchamp: their politeness and amiable manners induced us to stay all night. after an excellent dinner, we walked in the shrubbery; an elegant seat, quite Grecian, by James Wyatt. after tea musick; Miss B. plays admirably, her sister sings. They spare no expense in instructing & adorning the minds of their children. Miss Huckford recommended to them by N., whom he met accidentally in a stage-coach going to Richmond: he found her reading La Bruyere & an Italian book peeping out of her pocket. She has something very interesting in her countenance. Bumgarton, a German, & famous composer, is there to instruct them in musick. Their house is a kind of Museum, abounding in Books, pictures, busts, drawings &c. promised to send Miss B. some fossils &c. for her own Museum: they pressed us to stay till Saturday, but we returned to dinner. upon the whole a pleasant excursion. Mr. Langton said Norwich was very seditiously inclined: inflammatory papers often printed & circulated there. J. James saw writ on the corners of the Streets, *No King, D—n the King*. It is not easy to account for this as the people are wealthy; but it seems they were always seditiously inclined: perhaps money makes them vain and envious of the distinctions of Birth & Nobility.

Saturday 22. I forgot to mention that the bridge over the marsh was built at the expense of ¹ Hubbard in the reign of ¹ She also built ¹

Sunday 23d. The beautiful gateway to the Cathedral was built by Sir T. A. ¹ in consequence of a vow in the way of penance, he was either to make a journey to the Holy Land or erect this Gateway; like a wise man he preferred the gateway.

Monday 24th. We rode to Caastor ² camp two miles the other side of Yarmouth. about a mile further is a Gothick tower said to have been part of the castle of Sir John Falstoff in the reign of Henry the 5th. A moat surrounds it with the

¹ Blank spaces left for filling in words.

² i. e. Caister.

remains of the walls. The Tower is not unpicturesque by means of its form, the water and some large trees that extend their branches across the water, shewing the Tower through them. It is round with a vedett, and embattled. The coast & country from Yarmouth to caastor camp flat, sandy & marshy. We called on Capt. Hudson of the East York who is to marry Lady Anne Townshend, daughter of Marquess T. not in the Camp. We returned to B. to dinner. In the evening walked to Mr. Moss's summer house, where we drank¹ with his family & then rowed on his lake a fine piece of water of beautiful shape, its banks richly wooded to the very edge, being larger than N's but obscured in some parts by too many rushes & water weeds. The evening calm and serene, the lake smooth as glass, the setting sun gilding the summits of the little hills & the tops of the trees.

Tuesday 25. L^d & Lady F. called & they went to see the same lake; I staid at home. Wrote to Rev. H. Dillon, enclosing one to Frank & one to Octavius, on Monday; to-day to John Rowe. In the evening Mr. & Mrs. Hyde came from Lowestoft to tea. Mrs. H. one of the finest players on the harpsichord in the world, but to our great disappointment had strained—sprained her wrist & fingers by a fall from her horse & could not use them. Miss F. played & sung: very sweetly.

Wednesday 26th. Sir Thomas Beauchamp & his daughter with Mr. Bumgarten the Musician (now retained by them for the instruction of the young ladies) came to dinner by appointment. Miss B. played admirably, tho' they say without ear. Amiable, good humoured, friendly people. We engaged to dine with them on Thursday sennight & stay till Saturday. Rowed on the lake by moon light. Nothing could be more calm & serene: the water as smooth & clear as a mirrour, reflecting the moon, the stars & the dark shadows of the Trees: the Moon threw a gentle light over some of them: nothing could be more delicious.

¹ i. e. drank tea.

Thursday 27. Bathed not in Mills machine & paid; it being very fine.

Friday 28. Bathed in M^s machine. Wrote to Lord Lisburne on Sir J. Vaughan's death at ¹ To Dr. & Miss Shaftoe about John's going to Christ Church. We dined at General Johnston's company Mr. & Mrs. N, Miss F., Mrs. Leathes, Revd. Mr. Bonus, Sir Edward & Lady Leighton, and Two aid de camps Capt^s Drury & Shelly. A dinner of numerous dishes but ill-dressed; fish stale, chickens raw. In the evening we went to the ball, crowded. Sir W^m Jerningham, Miss Langtons, Miss Cadogans, daughters of Lord Cadogan, L^d & Lady Feilding, Sir Edmund Bacon, Lord & Lady Milsington, General Johnstone. Little conversation at dinner, charmed with the good old General; Capt. D. pert and vulgar. Got home very much tired between one & two. *νο ενιογμεντ ερqual το τθατ οφ βεινγ ατ home.*

Sunday 30. In the morning we called at L^d Feildings; from thence to the camp. took a cup of tea in Lady Millsingtowns tent, heard the band on the ferry, at the evening gun returned to Lord F's to tea: L^y F. played on the harp: at Ten we came home. Fifteen men lodged in each tent: poor fellows.

Monday 31. L^d Cadogans two sons called. John rowed them on the Lake. Mr. & Mrs. ¹ called; J. walked round with them. John rowed us from Wyatts seat. Bathed this morning with Milles. How little do we do?

Sept. 1st. They went with Lord & Lady F on a water party; being afraid of the heat, I staid at home & wrote to Mr. Dundas, thanking him for his recommendation of Frank to Admiral Murray: and to Mr. T. D. Boswell about Fredericks going to Wombwells. Rode to Lowestoft. Dined at home with Mrs. N., walked with her after tea. Read in the evening; this day passed not very *πλεασαντλι*. Rec^d Letters from Cornwall satisfactory enough. To Miss E. Boswell.

¹ Blank spaces left for filling in names.

Wednesday 2d. Nicholls Italian & Swiss Journal in MS. Bathed with Milles. Sutton, Bishop of Norwich, Mrs. Sutton, his son, brothers & sisters, Mrs. & Miss Love & Miss Holden drank tea.

Thursday 3d. We all went to Langley again. Dined. In the evening, a Concert, Performers from Norwich. Sharp ¹ company Mrs. & Miss Russell. Wrote to J. Rowe & Mr. Boswell. Commodious house; grounds flat. A pleasing Shrubbery; a wood or forest with a drive through it. Some fine oaks, thorns &c. Distant country elevated & rich in wood.

Friday 4th. Staid all Friday & on Saturday till 12. On our return from Langley to the marshes broken ground, gentle swells & wood. Sir Edmund Bacon's ¹ decent house, Church too near, Lawn flat, some old trees & new plantations by N. Got home to dinner at 4. Lord F. Townshend came. Sir Thomas & Lady Beauchamp highly amiable & kind to us. engaged to return to them again before we leave the neighbourhood.

Sunday 6. Preached for N. at Lound. Lord F. T. still here. In the evening Anne went to tea to Lord F's. Mrs. N. *νερι διαγρεαβλε. ισανε ορ δρυνη, Ι θινκ. νευερ κνεω συχη α ωμαν. νυλγαρ, ρυδε, ναιν, σελfish & μαλιτσιους. ωινε μακεσ her μαδ.*

Monday 7th. Bathed in Mills's machine. Read. Dined in the island with Lord F. T. &c. A charming day. N. very pleasant, but our innocent gaiety checked & clouded by the *φολλι, μαλισε & ισανιτι* of —.

Tuesday 8th. All the morning lost; we went on Mr. Moss's water: very fine but too hot. Mr. ² dined with us: draws well from Nature. We walked round after dinner. Lord F. T. took leave of us, to go to his father's, Marquess T., at R. He promised us a visit in Cornwall. Of highly amiable manners.

¹ Blank spaces left for filling in words.

² Blank space left for filling in name.

Wednesday 9th. To Frederic and M. de Soyres at Bristol about going to Mr. Wombwells. To Mr. T. D. Boswell. To Laura. Bathed in Ms machine.

Thursday 10th. We dined at Lowestoft with Mr. Bowness: company Mrs. Leathes, Mr. Mrs. & Miss Love, Miss Holden. Rather tiresome.

Friday 11th. Bathed in Ms machine. Wrote to Mr. Gwatkin.

Saturday 12. We all went to Yarmouth to see Mr. Wigg's marine plants & a statue brought from Africa; some expression in the face of fortitude & resignation & in the muscles of the arms; very small; person uncertain. Plants finely preserved.

Monday 14th. Wrote to Mr. T. D. Boswell.

Tuesday 15. We went on a visit to Earsham 18 miles, Mr. Windhams. about four miles the other side of the marsh, a pleasing well cultivated country, well wooded country, in the distance a ridge resembling hills. Earsham house commodious. Great variety of grounds, much wood, parts rough like Epping forest, with green lawns, & others ornamented. The cold bath, the extensive woody bank, the stream at the foot of it, the distant view of Bungay, highly picturesque.

Wednesday 17th. We all drove to Dr. Sanbys the Chancellors, 85 with all his faculties, & his memory so tenacious that he retained and wrote down the Bishop's charge, w^{ch} he also read to us. Has just built a new house & talks of what he is to do next year &c. A fine view from his house. We then proceeded to the agent, Mr. Adairs. A stately Gothic brick edifice about James's the first times. Several good rooms; the park rather flat, venerable wood.

Thursday 18. We went in Mr. Windhams coach to
¹ Sir Joshua V ¹ The house by
 Wyatt in his best stile, of brick but stuccoed with a new
 invented stucco, looking better & more durable than stone.

¹ Blank spaces left for filling in names.

The front magnificent, but I should think too long for its height. Nothing can surpass the proportions of the Hall, eating room, library & drawing room, nor the elegance, the chasteness, & purity with w^{ch} they are painted & fitted up. The grounds are finely broken & have a great profusion of fine old trees. Received very politely by Sir J. & Lady V.

Sir John & Lady Rouse came while we were there. Cold collation. Some good pictures. Shewed us every part of the house: the sleeping rooms not suitable to the rooms below.

Friday 19. Mr. & Mrs. Windham highly amiable & attentive: the magnificance & elegant order in w^{ch} they live very unusual. Conversation amusing & instructive. Mr. W. rode with us all over his park & grounds. Both of them persons of very uncommon curiosity & information. as we expressed a desire to meet Mr. W ¹ one of our greatest botanist they invited him & his wife to meet us the first day.

Saturday. We returned by Bungay, where we called on Mr. W. and saw some of his plants; he rode some miles with us as in pursuit of a curious one. proceeded by Beccles. fine Gothic Tower & Portico of the Church, the first sulkily massy, the other supremely elegant. Passed by Mr. Sparrows, Mr. Holdens.

The country this way back rich in wood, cultivation & variety of ground.

Monday 21st. Wrote to M. de Soyres about Frederic & to Frederic himself & to Mr. Boswell on the same subject. Charming walk by moon light through the wood & by the lake.

Tuesday 22d. Wrote to Octavius & to Mr. Briggs about Johns returning to Eton.

Wednesday 23rd. Mrs. Anderson, Mrs Leathes & Lady Feilding dined here. General Johnstone, Capt^s. Shelly & Drury his aid de camps came to tea. The day passed pleasantly enough. Mrs. L. vain but sprightly, with great

¹ Blank space left for filling in name.

quickness of ideas & flow of words. her manner not quite correct. Mrs.¹ Animated, happy in random wit & humour, speaking at a venture, penetrating, arch, ironical: her manner & countenance too assured, even in the merest trifles, picking her teeth &c. Report talks of her

²

Thursday 24th. Lady F. good humoured, insipid, without any appearance of parts, or mind. J. James went in the mail to London.

Friday 25. N. and I dined at Yarmouth with General Johnston: delighted with his daughter, Mrs. Andersons wit and parts; a person of very uncommon talents. An admirable painter of character & an excellent mimick, nothing escapes her penetrating eye & discernment: what an entertaining detail she gave of her own life & with what a mixture of candour, pleasantry & sensibility! & how admirably did she portray the General's family! The defects & weaknesses she seizes & ridicules in others, prove the correctness of her own taste & the generosity & nobleness of her own mind and heart. This appeared particularly in her inimitable colouring of Mrs. Harvey. Every word that flowed from her lips, every look, every motion & gesture is full of the most enchanting, bewitching expression & grace. Her tender, her amiable affection to her excellent parent, excites both esteem and love. Alas that so angelic a being should be possessed by such an animal!

Friday 25. General Johnston & Mrs. Anderson, Mr. & Mrs. Love, & Miss Holdens, two Miss Anguishes (sisters to the Duchess of Leeds) & Mrs. Leathes dined here; Lady Feilding, Lord & Lady Mary Milsingtoun came to Tea. Musick & little conversation.

Saturday 26. We all dined on venison at Yarmouth with General Johnston Lady ³ Home & ³ came to Tea. Cards. Mrs. Anderson had a head-ach,

¹ It is not clear whether 'Mrs.' refers to Mrs. Leathes or to Mrs. Anderson.

² The next line has been obliterated and is illegible.

³ Blank spaces left for filling in names.

out of spirits. Little said. J. James went from London to Eton.

Sunday 27th. Dr. G. ¹ came to see Mr. Floyer & dined here. Has been in America & in India. N., Anne & Miss F. went and drank tea with Lady F. Staid at home; disagreeable conversation with Mr. F. Wrote to Mr. Willoby & to Frederic.

Monday 28th. We dined at Herringfleet; company General Johnston, Capt. Peachel, Shelly & Drury, Mrs. Anderson, Mr. & Mrs. & Miss Love, & Miss Holden. Mrs. A. not in high spirits or very brilliant, but entertaining and pleasing. The good General very amusing. Mrs. Leathes attempts at wit & humour seemed rather forced to-day. Nobody seemed alert or animated. Walked through the wood, or rather struggled through thorns & briars to the Decoy, but had our labour for our pain, the old duck having died in the night. In the evening cards made every one cease their efforts & diffused their consoling & irresistible stupor. Before supper Mrs. A. highly entertaining in the Garden. Mrs. L. repeated Mr. Davy's versification of a character in Lavater which she thought resembled her own & which first struck her when she was sitting to Miles the painter. How little pleasure does any society afford. People often talk what they do not think & affect what they do not feel. The Generalty depend for enjoyment on daily occurrences & the passing characters of the day. No enjoyment equal to that arising from ones books, thoughts, walks, rides & occasional conversation with a few select friends. *would I were at home again! N's σενσιβιλιτι διστρεσσεσ ημσελφ & οτθερς.* We did not get home till near one.

Tuesday 29th. They went to the Ball at Yarmouth to meet Mrs. Anderson.

Wednesday 30th. At home, walked round. Wrote to Mr. Boswell. Finished Bourrit. Called at Herringfleet on Mrs. Leathes.

¹ Blank space left for filling in name.

Thursday October 1. We went by appointment to Yarmouth to Mrs. Andersons from whence we proceeded to go on board the Ranger Frigate, Capt. Hardy, where we were entertained with a cold collation & a dance. Company Gen: Johnston, & Capt^s. P. & D., Mrs. Leathes & Miss Holden, Col., Mrs. & Miss Sibthorp, Miss Brown, & several officers. The Rain forced us on shore; we dined with Gen: Johnston & were detained by the rain till near 12.

Saturday 3d. We took leave of Mrs. Leath¹ at Herringfleet & Mrs. Love at Somerly. I bathed. We dined at Oulton, with Lord & Lady Feilding. Wrote Dr. Jackson, Dean of Christ Church, about John. To Miss Boswell on the death of her sister² (the 26th). Nobody but Capt. Roberts. Plaid at Whist. Lady F. plaid and sung. Came home at eleven, not much amused.

Monday 5th. Intended setting out this morning but as it had rained so much for some days past & the roads w^d be heavy, induced to stay till to-morrow, when they might be drier. Besides my bowells were out of order & I was unwilling to leave Nicholls. A charming morning this! This day have been here three months & in perpetual amusement & in the best society. Such has been the solicitude of my amiable & excellent friend to procure us satisfaction & enjoyment & in such estimation is he held by persons of the first rank & finest discernment! I shall always recollect these three months with peculiar pleasure. I look forward to our intended Tour (if it can be accomplished) with the highest expectations of gratification & delight & even improvement. But how is it practicable with such impedimenta, & such a Family! Would it not be taking too much from them? Must weigh every circumstance deliberately & be cautious not to gratify myself at their expense. Would it not be *sinking* so much (I mean what we should spend more than my income) & how can I make it up to them? What it is to be a parent! I almost reproach myself for the expense of

¹ So the diarist here writes the name.

² Veronica.

the present journey: one way or other it has a good deal exceeded what I supposed, and I fear may our Continental one. Let me then take time to think & not be too hasty.

Tuesday 6th. Though a fine day, my daughter so much indisposed could not go. Drove Mrs. N. to Lowestoft & paid some trifles. We dined without company & talked of future schemes.

Wednesday 7th. Anne better, we set out about 11th,¹ Nicholls accompanied us as far as Wrentham. By the way he shewed us Sir T. G. ² which his taste had laid out & adorned. The Grounds are very flat, but have a rich look, owing to much noble wood. We parted at W. with melancholy regret & tears in our eyes. Now my dear B. is taken from me, there is nobody I love so well as Nicholls.

Proceeded to Yoxford; the in³ being full, availed ourselves of N's letter to the Hon^{ble} Mr. Davey, whose seat is about a quarter of a mile from the town. They rec^d us very hospitably; we slept & breakfasted with them; left the Grove about Ten. In an hour it began to rain; we stopt at Saxmundum (four miles). Though it continued to rain we proceeded to Woodbridge (12 miles) where we dined: about five we went on to this place⁴ (7 miles) & arrived about six. We drank tea; I wrote to Mr. Boswell. The Country near Ipswich seems finely broken & well cultivated with a good number of trees; but the weather was so unfavourable that every object wore a dismal appearance.

Friday 9th. Breakfasted at Stratford. Set out in the rain for Witham where we dined; proceeded to Chelmsford, it growing fair 27 miles. Tea & supper; wrote to Nicholls.

Saturday 10th. To Brentwood 10 miles. breakfasted, set out in the rain for Rumford (6 miles). Baited there, about one went on to London in heavy showers: at Stepney Mile End took a coach Harry following behind with the Chair

¹ i.e. about 11 a.m.

² Blank space left for filling in words.

³ So spelt by the diarist.

⁴ At the top of this page of the note-book is 'Ipswich'.

and horses. Drove to Tichfield Street then to Gr. Portland where he¹ had provided a lodging for us at a Mr. Clow's No. 103 at a guinea and an half a week. He accompanied us & we returned with him to dinner & tea & then he went with us to Miss Boswells, where we found Mr. Langton & James & staid supper, Mr. Boswell leaving us. Mr. L. talks too much & quotes too much & too minutely. I trust too apprehensive about the times we live in: yet full of science & information. at Gr. George Street No. 13.²

Sunday 11th. Dined at Mr. Boswells. Miss B. Boswell & Frederick with us. Called in the morning & evening at Miss Boswells & found Mr. Langton again there where we left him.

Monday 12. At home till ³ Wrote to Mr. Willoby & Mr. Rowe acknowledging bills, £88. 1. 10. & £29. Took Anne and Frederick to Drury Lane to see Mrs. Siddons in *Zara* in the *Mourning Bride*.⁴

Tuesday 13th. Called with Mr. Boswell at Mr. Wombwells & executed our agreement respecting Frederic: pleased with his open, liberal manner; accepted his invitation to dinner at four. Wrote to J. James at Eton. To Mr. Claxton at Shirley, Surrey.

¹ Presumably David Boswell.

² Presumably Bennet Langton's London address.

³ Blank space left.

⁴ Congreve's tragedy.

SIXTH DIARY

Introduction

FOR notices of Richard Cumberland, Walter Travers, Miss Hannah More, James Boswell junior, Thomas Andrew Lumisden Strange, Dr. John Moore, Daniel Lysons, Mrs. Piozzi, William Hayley, Richard Polwhele, William Henry Ireland, William Seward, Richard Payne Knight, William Beloe, Jonathan Carter Hornblower, Sir William Forbes, John Elwes, and George Horne, Bishop of Norwich, readers should consult the *Dictionary of National Biography*.

Of the R. Behenna mentioned in the entry for March 11th I can discover nothing. The name seems to be well-known in Cornwall. The mother of Sir Henry Irving was a Miss Behenna.

Inasmuch as the Mr. Price of Penzance referred to in the entry for May 6th is described as a Jamaica planter, he was probably related to the two baronets of that name, father and son, Sir Charles Price (1708-72) and Sir Charles Price (1732-88), who were extensive landowners in Jamaica and were both Speakers of the House of Assembly there.

There is a notice of Farinelli (mentioned in the entry for May 19th) in the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*.

Readers will find an account of Euphemia Boswell (mentioned in the entry for January 24th) in the 'Memoir of James Boswell' which Dr. Charles Rogers prefixes to his edition of *Boswelliana* (1874), in which *ana* she also figures once. She visited St. Gluvias in the company of her father and of her elder sister Veronica in 1792, when her 'silly terrors' provoked the contemptuous pity of her host's elder daughter. In 1808 (so I gather from the memoranda of the

Powlett journals and letters) she published a work called *Euphemia* and introduced it to the notice of Mrs. Charles Powlett (formerly Nancy Temple), who was kind enough to volunteer to solicit subscriptions for it. What this work was, whether novel, drama or autobiography, I cannot say; but it is not one of the three 'Euphemias' inscribed in the catalogues of the British Museum Library. Euphemia Boswell, who suffered from agoraphobia and suspicion of being deserted by her family, was born in 1774, and died in 1834. 'In her will', says Dr. Rogers, 'she expressed a desire that her remains should be deposited in Westminster Abbey near the grave of Dr. Johnson'.

The cousin of Norton Nicholls (mentioned in the entry for March 13th), who tried to starve himself to death owing to embarrassment, is probably to be identified with the cousin whose distresses were arousing Nicholls's anxiety in 1778 (*Edward Jerningham and His Friends*). He lived at Maltby in Yorkshire, was at that time thirty-three years old, had just lost 'his little girl of eleven months old', and had a 'detestable mother' living in Essex. He was a Mr. Floyer and married again in 1780, his second wife being the lady whom Nicholls describes to Jerningham as 'my Oggetto'.

Temple's comment on Bishop Watson's answer to Paine (made in the entry for April 15th) is distinctly interesting, in view of what De Quincey says about the Bishop of Llandaff in the very racy description of him which he includes in his essay on Coleridge. After describing how soon the death of Dr. Markham followed the sudden dissolution of the Ministry of All the Talents in 1807, and how narrowly therefore Watson missed elevation to the Archbishopric of York, De Quincey goes on to say:

'How grand a thing, how princely, to be an English Archbishop! Yet, what an Archbishop! He talked openly, at his own table, as a Socinian; ridiculed the miracles of the New Testament, which he professed to

explain as so many chemical tricks or cases of legerdemain; and certainly had as little of devotional feeling as any man that ever lived.'

In his *English Thought in the Eighteenth Century* Sir Leslie Stephen tries to defend Watson from this charge on the ground that De Quincey was a loose reporter of facts. But such a ground of defence is hardly tenable. De Quincey is not reporting facts so much as recording impressions. If, therefore, he is not deliberately lying he may be presumed to be speaking the truth. De Quincey met Dr. Watson in 1810 when he was visiting Coleridge at the Lakes. The four papers written by him on the poet made their first appearance in *Tait's Magazine* in the issues for September, October, and November, 1834, and for January, 1835. A guest who had heard his host—a Bishop!—ridicule the miracles of the New Testament might well recall so remarkable a circumstance even a quarter of a century later.

On the extraordinary death of Lord Charles Townshend, who with his brother, Lord Frederick Townshend, spent several days with Temple and Norton Nicholls at Blundeston during the former's visit to Suffolk in the late summer and autumn of 1795, I can give no certain information; for *Burke* says nothing about Lord Charles's suicide and does not even give the date of his birth. But I submit the following account of this mysterious affair, which I take from *The Annual Register* for 1796, from its 'Chronicle' of that year:

'May 27th. A very melancholy and extraordinary transaction took place. Lord Charles Townshend and his brother, Lord Frederick Townshend, sons to the Marquis Townshend, had been to Great Yarmouth, for which place Lord Charles had just been chosen representative. They arrived in town yesterday morning about six o'clock, and when they had reached Oxford Street, near the Pantheon, the post-boys stopped to enquire where

the Bishop of Bristol, to whose house they had been ordered to drive lived; when Lord Frederick jumped out of the chaise and struck one of the boys, which gave rise to an altercation that drew together several persons who were passing by. Among these was a coachman, to whom Lord Frederick particularly addressed himself, insisting upon it that he knew where the Bishop lived. And on the man protesting that he did not his lordship abused him with great violence and, with the most deplorable marks of insanity, threw off his coat, waistcoat, and shirt, and challenged him to fight. Unable to provoke the man to a contest he walked leisurely away towards Hanover Square, when some persons who had been attentive to the whole scene looked into the carriage and saw a lifeless body on the seat, which proved to be the corpse of Lord Charles. Lord Frederick was immediately pursued and being taken near the end of Swallow Street was conducted to a neighbouring watch-house, whither the body of his brother was also conveyed. As soon as the magistrates at the police-office in Marlborough Street were apprized of the circumstance they ordered Lord Frederick to be brought before them, together with the postillions who drove him to town. His Lordship, when interrogated on the melancholy subject, betrayed the most unequivocal symptoms of mental derangement; and it became necessary for the magistrates to apply to the postillions for the information they wanted. From this evidence it appeared that about seven miles from town, in the vicinity of Ilford, one of them had heard the report of a pistol, when looking round he saw Lord Frederick throw a pistol out of the chaise window; but he did not stop to inquire the cause of it. This was all that could be collected till the evening, when the agitation of Lord Frederick had subsided and he had recovered a considerable degree of composure. Lord Frederick then, on being asked concerning his brother's death, said they had been

discussing a religious subject, and Lord Charles took a pistol and blew out his own brains, and that he [Lord Frederick] had endeavoured to destroy himself, but his pistol failed. The Mayor of Yarmouth was present and declared that their Lordships' conduct at that place appeared that of madmen, which induced him to follow them to town, being fearful some accident might happen. The evidence of the servants respecting the conduct of their lordships was similar to the above. A pistol was found unloaded in the carriage, which appeared to have been just fired. The pistol which had put an end to the life of Lord Charles had been placed in his mouth and loaded with two slugs or balls, one of which perforated the skull, and the other was extracted from his mouth. Neither the teeth nor tongue were injured; so that it is evident that no violence had been used in the introduction of the fatal instrument, and the death of Lord Charles might not improbably be an act of his own committed in a paroxysm of phrenzy. Last night the Coroner's inquest sat on the body, when after a long examination the jury brought in a verdict— "That the deceased had been killed by a pistol ball, but from whose hands unknown".'

The same account appears in the June number of *The European Magazine* under 'Domestic Intelligence.'

Lord Frederick and Lord Charles were respectively the third and fourth sons of the first marriage of George, 1st Marquess and 4th Viscount Townshend, the brother of Charles Townshend, Chancellor of the Exchequer in the elder Pitt's second Administration of 1767, and the Viceroy of Ireland from 1767–1772. Lord Frederick was born in 1767 and died—a clergyman—in 1836. Lord Charles was born on January 6th 1768 at Leixlip in Ireland.

Curiously enough Temple's son-in-law, the Rev. Charles Powlett, was distantly connected with the Townshend family and indeed secured one of the scions of the house as his pupil; for, while he was a grandson of the 3rd Duke of

Bolton and Lavinia Fenton, Charles, second Viscount Townshend, had married Henrietta, daughter of Lord William Powlett, second son of Charles Powlett, first Duke of Bolton.

Temple's mention (made in the entry for June 29th) of Alexander Boswell's return to this country from Leipzig helps to clear up the mystery of that unfortunate gentleman's education. The writer who contributes the notice of Sir Alexander to the *Dictionary of National Biography* says that:

'Along with his brother James he was educated at Westminster and Oxford.'

This statement is quite incorrect. As his letters to Temple prove, Boswell had all along determined that his two sons should not receive a similar education. So, while James was dispatched to Westminster School and then to B.N.C. Oxford, Alexander was sent to Eton with the prospect (see Boswell's letter to Temple dated November 28th, 1789) of spending two years at Edinburgh University and then of studying Civil Law in Holland and Germany. This programme seems to have been faithfully carried out. Mr. L. F. Powell, librarian of the Taylor Institution, kindly informs me that Mr. Austen Leigh's edition of the Eton lists shows that Alexander Boswell was at Eton in 1790 and 1791. Mr. Powell is also good enough to tell me that he has definitely ascertained that Alexander never matriculated at Oxford University but studied at Edinburgh University in the years 1792-94. In the written list of students attracted to the Faculty of Arts classes for that period occurs the name of an Alexander Boswell, who attended the classes of Logic in 1792, those of Physics and Ethics in 1793, and those of Litteræ Humaniores in 1794. Alexander, however, never graduated at Edinburgh. Subsequently, as Temple's entry shows, he seems to have studied abroad, at least in Germany. The writer who contributes Sir Alexander's life to the

D.N.B. makes another mistake about his subject. He declares that the final meeting of the two baronets took place at Sir Walter Scott's house in Castle Street, Edinburgh, '*a few hours before the fatal event*', that is to say on the evening previous to the day on which Sir Alexander fought his duel with James Stuart (March 26th, 1822). In his *Journal* (Edinburgh: David Douglas, 1890) Scott says:

'Poor Sir Alexander Boswell . . . was killed *within two or three months*.'

Incorporating this extract into his *Life of Scott* Lockhart alters '*within two or three months*' into '*within a week*'; while in a note to the 55th chapter of the same work he declares:

'The Baronet . . . had dined in Castle Street only two or three days before it [i.e. the duel] occurred.'

But this discrepancy of dates hardly justifies the statement that Sir Alexander's last evening at Sir Walter's took place '*a few hours before the fatal event*'. The gradual reduction of the interval between the two meetings from months to weeks, from weeks to days, and from days to hours, is however a very interesting example of the fatal attraction which the love of the picturesque has for the indiscriminating biographer.

On July 19th, 1796, Temple notes in his diary that he had received that day 'a long letter from Sir William Forbes respecting my dear Boswell's letters and papers'. A clause in Boswell's will, which was made in London on May 28th, 1785, and witnessed by the publishers, Edward and Charles Dilly, will explain why Temple and Sir William Forbes were in communication at this time, just fourteen months after Boswell's death (May 19th, 1795). The clause runs:

'I hereby leave to the said Sir William Forbes, the Rev. Mr. Temple, and Edmund Malone, Esquire, all my manuscripts of my own composition and all my letters from

various persons to be published for the benefit of my younger children, as they shall decide. That is to say they are to have a discretionary power to publish more or less.'

Dr. Rogers, from whose 'Memoir of James Boswell' I extract this passage, declares that the three literary executors never met and that Boswell's papers were finally handed over to his cousin, Robert Boswell, who burnt them.¹ It seems strange that Sir William Forbes should have let over a year elapse from the time of Boswell's death before he communicated with Temple on the subject of his friend's papers. It is strange, too, that Boswell should have bequeathed no more substantial testimony of his regard to Temple than the gold mourning ring which he left equally to Forbes, Malone, and several other persons whose names are mentioned in his will.

The M. Burette, whose *Dissertations* Temple was reading on August 1st and 2nd, 1796, seems to have been a French physician who 'flourished' in the first half of the eighteenth century. Pierre Jean Burette was born in Paris in 1665 and died in 1747. For some years, commencing in 1723, he edited 'Le Journal des Sçavans' at Paris. A 'Catalogue de la Bibliothèque de M. Burette', edited with a 'Mémoire sur la vie . . . de M. B.', by G. Martin, was published in Paris in 1748 in three volumes with the prices of the books marked in MS. Burette acted as *praeses* in many *quaestiones medicae* in which Antoine Bergier (Physician of Myon), Joannes Maria Berthod, Jean Baptiste Nicholas Boyer, and Helvetius were concerned. The subjects discussed included 'An siccus aër humido salubrior?' 'Pelliturne sanguis sola cordis incitatione?', 'Sunt-ne recens inventa prorsus in medendo rejicienda?', 'An canalis intestinorum glandula primaria?', 'An à sola partium structura corporis humani functiones?'

¹ It is now well known that this statement was not accurate.

SIXTH DIARY, 1796

January

Hardly know what I am doing: much of my time taken up in writing Letters about my sons, &c.

Cicero ad Familiares.

Xenophon's Memorabilia.

Denina's Rivoluzioni D'Italia.

To Clarke. Again to him. To Sir C. Hawkins.

To Mr. Gwatkin. To Mr. Baron. To Frederic on Mr. Wombwell's sudden death.

Miss Brown staid near a fortnight with Anne in return for her visit at Penzance with Miss Stephens as did young Trewicke with John in return for his. This brought us more company than is agreeable to my habits. Cap^t. Forster dined and slept frequently here; he is going to the West Indies, and our families in the North are some how connected by the Watsons and Lord Lisburne. John and Trewicke went twice in the Gig to Helegan to visit their fellow Etonian young Tremain. They returned on ¹ and on ¹

set out again to proceed to Eton, which they did from Helegan on ¹

[no date] Cap^t. Forster took up his abode with us, I think: this engaged me in more company than I like.

Mr. and Mrs. and Mr. F. Enys, Mr. Lacky (Musidorus), Mr. Obero, a Portuguese gentleman (visitors at Enys), Miss Penrose, Col. Barrow, Cap. Brudenell, Mr. George &c dined with us. Amused with the eccentric conversation of Musidorus, who had travelled not only in Europe, but in Greece, Constantinople, India &c.

We all dined at Mr. George's. The same company dined at Enys.

Ill in consequence of something that disagreed with me. Cap. Forster sailed.

¹ Blank spaces—left for dates—not filled in.

February

15. Wrote to Mr. Boswell, remitting £98. 10. 0 and £16. 0. 0 to discharge Frederick's bills during the last half year at Bristol and John's at Eton to 17th of December. Wrote also this month to Mr. Clarke, Sir C. Hawkins. Much oppressed in my spirits and inclining to indolence. Reading carelessly Xenophon's *Memorabilia*, Cicero ad *Familiares* and *Denina*. Almost afraid to recollect the small progress I made last year. Hurt by the petulance and quarrels of the children. Pray for patience, and composure. Feel every day more and more the want, and loss of my beloved wife: unequal to the care and management of my children. Know not what to do.

Wednesday 17th. To Mr. Dundas about Frank at Halifax. Looking into dear Boswell's *Life of Johnson*: nothing can be more entertaining, or *interesting now* to me; never was there so true and exact a picture given of any man.

Thursday 18th. To J. James at Eton.

Still dissatisfied with myself. Must get into a better method. Alas! what have I done to-day. Looked into Boswell's *Life of Johnson*; rode with Anne. Wrote one letter and read a little in Xenophon, *Denina* and Cicero. But what is this? Here is no progress, no exertion! Must dedicate the morning to labour, to composition: begin on Monday.

Friday 19th. Saturday 20th. Wrote a long letter to Mrs. Leathes of Herringfleet, Suffolk, now at Bristol Hot Wells for her health. Turning over Cumberland's *Henry*. Full of improbabilities and often almost licentious: surely not fit for Female purity to read. Treads in the steps of Fielding rather than of Richardson. He talks of contrast in his characters and there is enough of it. He certainly writes with feeling and animation. Daws and Caudle: strange characters. The introductory chapters in imitation of Fielding, which I never liked.

I. Walton's life of Hooker: they talked of republishing these lives, but I do not think they would take now. One cannot enter into his dispute with Travers. What a mixture of discernment and simplicity! How different the manners of those times and the present.

Monday 22. Prevented this morning.

Drove Anne to Milor and called on Miss Penrose and Mr. and Mrs. Gould.

How difficult it is to follow a plan!

Xenophon, Denina, and Cicero as usual. Wrote to Miss Hannah More at Bath in answer to her letter concerning the Cheap Repository, or little Pieces to counteract Paine's and other such Trash, undertaken by her and her friends. Shall I never be satisfied with myself? Robert grows very troublesome. Yet alas! what is he fit for? Yet to keep him at home— what a trial and perpetual vexation: restless, yet capable of nothing. Octavius rude from too much indulgence. Anne petted from the same cause. Laura all the disagreeable qualities of a girl just come from school. Poor me!

Tuesday 23d. Interrupted in the morning. Anne and I and Octavius drove to Killiow. Neither Mr. nor Mrs. Gwatkin at home.

Wrote to Mr. Baron at Lostwithiel and to Mr. Dillon at Liskeard and to Sir C. Hawkins respecting Octavius. Xenophon &c.

Wednesday 24th. Being afraid to go myself after my late indisposition, so far in an open carriage, sent Mr. J. Rowe in the Gig with Octavius. The dear boy was much affected at parting; but I could not keep him at home and he saw the necessity of going. He is of a most affectionate disposition and has great quickness of parts. He may go on well enough under Mr. D. for a year or two, both he and his wife being really fond of him. After he was gone read in Hooker and then rode out and consoled myself with thinking of his amiable disposition.

Walked a little after dinner. In the evening, Hooker, Xenophon &c.

Wrote a long letter to Euphemia Boswell, now at Auld House near Glasgow with the widow of her mother's brother, Mrs. Montgomery.

But what is all this to my views and the duties I owe. A journal calls one to a just account. Indeed shall never be easy till I get into a better method. Gracious Power above us strengthen my good purposes and enable me to carry them into effect!

Thursday 25th. The morning passed I cannot tell how. Wrote a long letter to my sister. Read in Hooker. Rode. Walked after dinner. In the evening wrote a long letter to Mr. Nicholls at Blundeston. Xenophon &c.

Friday 26th. Read my Letters. Prayers. Mr. Coode called. Rode. After dinner wrote to Mr. Boswell and to Mrs. Forster at Dover with regard to a bill of her husband's for £50 which I indorsed and which was refused payment for want of effects in his agent's hands. If no mistake here's a pretty return for my civility, my kindness. Walked. Tea. The Relative State of Great Britain and France, an ingenious Pamphlet sent me by Mr. Boswell in a frank. Well written and with temper and truth. Mr. Rowe returned from Liskeard and I had the pleasure of hearing that he left Octavius well and in tolerable spirits. News Papers. Prayers. Dear boy, will write to him to-day, as I promised. Xenophon &c. Wrote to Mr. Gwatkin.

Saturday 27th. Looking out a Sermon. Wrote to Octavius at Liskeard. Rode. In the afternoon and evening had so violent a head-ach, attended with a shivering, could not read. Wrote, however, part of a letter to Sir W^m Forbes and part of one to Jimmy Boswell at Westminster school. So ill, could not sit up to my usual hour, and went to bed early and with some apprehension. Wrote to Mr. Gwatkin.

Sunday 28th. Thankful to awake much better, head-ach and shivering both gone.

Monday 29th. Searching for a Letter great part of the morning. Looking into D'Ivernors' answer to Calonne: seems very dry. Rode. In the evening finished my letter to Jimmy Boswell. Read again part of the Pamphlet I read the other day. The Relative State of Great Britain and France. Xenophon &c. Strange that I have not begun my Papers. A Journal is certainly of use: at least it lets us see how little we do, and how difficult it is to carry good resolutions into effect. Every week, for some time past, I have intended to begin upon these Papers, yet have not.

March

Tuesday 1st. Now I must prepare a Sermon for the Fast and write various Letters. Surely I do not make the most of my time, but let it slip through my hands. Wrote a long letter to Mrs. Gwatkin of Killiow; finished the Pamphlet. Walked: a severe frost. Therm: 38 in the house. In the evening read in Hooker, Xenophon &c. Wrote a long letter to Miss Stowe, my dear wife's sister in the North. News Papers.

Wednesday 2d. In the morning wrote again to Mrs. Gwatkin, to Mr. Carlyon. In the evening Hooker, Xenophon &c. Wrote to Sir C. Hawkins. Discomposed by Laura's behaviour. How often and in how many ways have I reason to lament the loss of my dear companion and friend. We suffer from the petulance and perverseness of children when young and their vanity and extravagance afterwards.

Thursday 3d. Wrote a long letter to Mr. Boswell about John, Frederic, and Robert &c. Read in Hooker and the Life of Johnson. It being frost and too cold to ride, walked, caught in rain. In the afternoon till tea, sat by the Fire musing, but doing nothing. In the evening read in Hooker, Denina &c. Laura still disagreeable. No time should now be trifled away and lost: might always get a hour before Tea. In that interval how many volumes did I not formerly read? Consider how great a proportion of your existence is gone.

Friday 4th. Wrote to Mr. Strange (Chief Justice at Halifax). Read in Hooker and Johnson's Life. Walked. After dinner Hooker, Cicero.

Saturday 5th. Wrote to Frank at Halifax, Nova Scotia. Read in Johnson's Life. Rode. In the evening Cicero &c. Did very little to-day, interrupted, discomposed.

Monday 7th. So ill in my bowells could do nothing: flatulency and pain.

Tuesday 8th. Read a little in Johnson's Life. Obligated to get up in the night and take some mint-water, which instantly relieved me. Must be very careful what I eat: blame pease-soup for this. Prevented writing a Sermon for the Fast. What shall I do? Wrote a long letter to John James at Eton. Wrote in a very negligent manner a Sermon for the Fast: read well enough. Miss Stephens dined with Anne.

Wednesday 9th. Fast. In the evening wrote a long letter to Mr. Boswell about John's passing the Eton holydays and Captain Forster's bill. Read in Johnson's Life. The more I read it, the more it interests me and excites my esteem of Johnson. What fervent piety, what tender affection for his friend, what curiosity and ardour for knowledge, esteem & respect to the last.

Thursday 10th. Wrote to Mr. Powlett in answer to one of his acquainting me with Mr. Ord Powlett having just presented him to the Living of Kingsclere & given him hopes of future favours and expressing a wish to visit us early in the summer. His persevering attachment is a proof of his regard. What his uncle alleged might be in a great measure owing to pique. His income is now greatly improved.

Friday 11th. In the morning wrote a long letter to Mr. T. D. Boswell about Robert, John, and Frederic and Capt. Forster's bill, enclosing it and a letter to Admiral Barclay, his wife's father. Was obliged to pay this bill £50 to R. Behenna on Thursday and know not when nor how I shall recover it. Rode with Anne. Think I read nothing to-day

but a little in Johnson's Life. Discomposed by this disagreeable circumstance.

Saturday 12th. At breakfast &c. wrote a sheet to Mr. Nicholls at Blundeston. On Monday shall begin to read a Sermon every day, in addition to my evening task, and two chapters in the Bible; one in the old and one in the New Testament. Rode with Anne before dinner. Walked alone after. In the evening Anne read to us Mr. Burke's Letter about his Pension: full of wit, brilliancy, extravagance, and information. Places the Duke of Bedford in as ridiculous and contemptible a light as he had done Price before. Amazing powers of expression and fancy.

Sunday. While Anne was entertaining the Miss Coodes after tea wrote another long letter to Nicholls, occasioned by one of his to Anne last night after mine was gone to the Post Office, in which he gives a shocking account of his cousin's intention to *starve* himself, owing to *εμβαρασμεντ*; but which he prevented by most kind and friendly interference. His humanity has hampered him with a burthen he will not easily get rid of, the object not deserving and from whom he can hardly expect any pleasing return or grateful sense: but we must do good and look higher.

3

Monday 14th. This, two years ago, the most melancholy day in my life: my beloved wife was taken from me. What have I suffered since and how have I missed her in every way! What future prospect of comfort? Anne too will probably soon leave me. Laura too young and giddy. No one with whom I can mingle minds. Reproach myself for not using more exertion. My time steals away unprofitably. Nothing done for the good of my Family. Blessed Saint look down, encourage and confirm me. They may know what passes here; why not? They may be permitted imperceptibly to influence our minds. Let my thoughts dwell on this dear object of my affection. But I dare not turn to the pages of this book that paint her last days, or to her

Letters. Last year it was too much for me. I may, however, recollect a thousand tender passages of our lives. Incapable of doing any thing all this day. In the evening read again Mr. Burke's Pamphlet.

Tuesday 15th. Began the Bible again. Read a Sermon of Barrow. Rode. In the evening Dr. Moore's View of the French Revolution, Xenophon &c.

Wednesday, 16. At breakfast wrote to Miss Stowe, my dear wife's eldest sister. Interrupted by Mrs. Treene and her daughter, who came to beg assistance. Drove with Anne to Enys to see the Miss Carlyons there. Mentioned Mrs. Treene to Mrs. Enys. Bible. Barrow. Walked after dinner. In the evening wrote to Mr. Boswell enclosing a £30 bill on Frederic's account. Wrote to Sir C. Hawkins. A little in Xenophon &c. Still this is doing nothing.

How unfeelingly people talk of the distress of others. No consideration for former situations, notions, prejudices. Mrs. Enys thought these people might work like common servants, tho' brought up in abundance and accustomed to attendance.

How much of our time is engrossed by sleep, meals, riding, walking, intruding and uninteresting talk! It is almost surprising how any thing is done. Yet what immense and laborious Works some persons atchieve!

Thursday 17th. Dr. Moore does not tell much we did not know before. Confirms indeed one's opinion of the imprudence of the Court and higher orders and of the insanity, wickedness and savage and wanton cruelty of the Multitude and Nation at large. Bible. Barrow. Interrupted. Rode. After dinner, walked and pointed out a piece of ground for potatoes. After tea Critical Review and Gent: Magazine just come down, Xenophon &c.

Shall never be able to prepare my Papers, if I do not appropriate all the morning to them. Ever since I returned from Suffolk, week after week have I intended to begin upon them, yet nothing done.

Friday 18th. At breakfast and till morning Prayer still

looking at the Reviews. Bible, Barrow, a little. Rode. After dinner walked. Parochial Duty. Looking into Lysons' London and its Environs. Some curious facts, but might be made more interesting. After tea Hooker, Cicero, Xenophon &c. Was interrupted in the morning about an hour and half by Capt. M., an incessant talker without any ingenuity, or information.

Saturday 19th. Bible. Barrow. Rode. Walked. Prepared a sermon in the evening. Looking into Campbell's Journey over land to India. Seems too full of himself and to contain not much or accurate information.

Sunday 20th. In the evening long letter to J. James at Mr. T. D. Boswell's in London during the Easter holydays.

Monday 21. Passion Week. Bible and Barrow. Prayers. Rode. In the evening Campbell's Journey over Land to India: contains more information than I expected. Xenophon &c.

Tuesday 22. Rec^d a letter from Admiral Barcly in answer to mine about Capt. Forster's bill, refusing to repay me. Wrote to him again and to Mrs. Forster, with little hope indeed, but it vexes one to be so overreached and to meet with such a return for such regard and kindness. Wrote to Mr. Willoby and Mr. Tibbet to remit Allerdean rent to Mr. Boswell to answer my bill on him for paying this money. Prayers. Capt. M. called. Went in the Gig with Anne to Falmouth to enquire about Mr. Forsters, sons of the commissary. Found one of them at Mrs. Young-husband's; the other ill in bed, just returned from the West Indies. Asked him to dine with us on Thursday. In the afternoon, interrupted by John R. Walked a little. After tea finished my Letters and Anne read the News Papers. Laura and Robert had dined at Flushing with Mrs. Wauchope. L⟨aura⟩ put me out of humour, a ρυδε, καπριχίους γιρλ. What a difference between the attention of children and wives. O my beloved Anne, I never knew your real value till I lost you. Children do not think at all, or think only of themselves: giddy, selfish, capricious.

Wednesday 23rd. Bible. Barrow. Hooker. Rode. After dinner, as I was walking, Mr. Gwatkin came. Continued our walk,¹ came in and drank tea. How mortifying it is that conversation yields so little satisfaction! Mr. E. Penwarne called to take leave on going to London. Sir F. Basset has got some appointment there, after waiting in expectation many years: the lot of how many!

Thursday 24th. Rode to Budock to a marriage. Then prayers here. Mr. Forster, third son of the Commissary, Miss Stephens and Miss Younghusband dined with us, the latter staying a few days with Laura.

Good Friday 25th. In the evening N. Testament. Xenophon. Not well: headach &c. How difficult it is to² as one wishes and keep one's resolutions. In such a situation as mine, one should suppose one might do as one pleased, yet even I am interrupted and prevented. What must they be who have real business!

Saturday 26th. Wrote to Octavius at Liskeard. Sermon.

Sunday Easter. 27th. Mr. Forster came from Falmouth with Laura, Miss Younghusband and Robert who dined there with Mrs. Younghusband and brought up Miss to go to the Easter ball on Monday. As it rained in the evening Mr. F. staid all night, dined with us the next day, went to the ball, slept here and returned to F.³ with Miss Y. on Tuesday. Seems a pleasing young man.

Monday 28th. In the morning prayers. Easter meeting. Came home to dinner. In the evening wrote part of a letter to Mr. Boswell.

Tuesday 29th. Prayers. B.⁴ Easter meeting, where I dined. In the evening finished my letter to Mr. Boswell. Read nothing yesterday, nor to-day.

Wednesday 30th. Bible, Barrow. Began Voyage Pittoresque de la Grèce par M. le Duc. Rode. The two Miss Stephens dined with Anne and Laura. Walked. Church.

¹ The diarist has written 'walked'.

² After 'to' some word like 'do' has been omitted.

³ Falmouth.

⁴ Budock.

In the evening wrote to J. James in town at Mr. Boswell's. Xenophon &c.

Thursday 31st. Bible, Barrow, Hooker. Interrupted all the evening by Mr. J., a prating apothecary, who came to pay me some money. Received a letter from Fred. expressing dissatisfaction with his situation: one from Mr. Boswell, in which he thinks John requires too much; one from Mr. Powlett about Anne. Read also in the morning Voyage Pittoresque &c. Two of these letters have given me some uneasiness. What uneasiness and anxiety, a family and connexions occasion! What Letters one must write, what a contest with humours, imprudence, inexperience &c.!

April

Friday 1st. In the morning wrote to Frederick. Church. Rode after dinner. Duty. Walked after Tea. Wrote to Mr. Boswell and to John relative to what is mentioned before. Looked into a silly novel by a Lady, Mrs.¹

How strangely time passes!

Saturday 2d. Bible, Barrow. Drove Laura in the Gig to Falmouth; called on Lieut. Forster of the Navy and Mrs. Younghusband. Mr. Forster came to dinner and staid all night: this interrupted me. Robert brought from the County Library Mrs. Piozzi's Synonymy: looked a little into it. How we are robbed of our time!

Sunday 3d. Communion at Budock. Miss Stephens dined with Anne. Fatigued and could not read. A letter from Mr. Tibbet saying he had paid Allerdean rent.

Monday 4th. Bible, Barrow. Anne drove me in the Gig. Walked. In the evening remitted to the Rev. Mr. J. Carrington £22. 14. 0 for Licenses and to pay two bills. Xenophon &c.

Tuesday 5th. Went in the Gig with Robert to the County Library at Truro. Found nobody but Mr. F. Enys. Staid and read there till two. Came home to dinner at four. Duty.

¹ A blank space left for filling in the name.

Walked. Looking into Hayley's Life of Milton, which I brought from the Library and also the 3^d volume of Lysons' Environs of London. Fatigued and sleepy.

Wednesday 6th. In the morning looked into Hayley's Life of Milton. Rode to Killiow, where I dined with Mr. and Mrs. Gwatkin, amiable people: returned at 8. Mortifying that conversation affords one so little entertainment: generally disappointed. Found Miss Stephens who had dined with Anne, and Miss F. Coode and Mr. Forster, who had drank tea with her. Mr. F. went afterwards to the Easter ball at Falmouth. Anne drove Laura in the Gig in the morning to go to the ball with Miss Younghusband. Such is Family history. In the evening received Letters from Mr. Boswell, J. James, and Mrs. Forster.

Thursday 7th. Read in Hayley's Life of Milton. Rode to Falmouth and called on Mr. Forster; his brother dined with us. Miss Stephens drank tea with Anne. They staid all night. This interruption is very teasing; but such is Life. Read a very little in Lysons' Environs of London. Wrote in the morning to Mr. Powlett in answer to his.

Friday 8th. Wrote to Frank still at Halifax, Nova Scotia. Life of Milton. Prayers. Walked after dinner. Duty at Budock. Miss Coode and Stephens drank tea with Anne. In the morning Robert and she rode to Falmouth to see Laura. In the evening a little in Hayley's Life of Milton.

Saturday 9th. In the morning Hayley. Rode. After dinner walked. In the evening Mr. Forster and Miss Stephens drank tea with Anne. Wrote to Mr. Strange, Chief Justice at Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Sunday 10th. Mr. Forster and Miss Stephens dined with us. After Evening Prayer they drove in the Gig to Falmouth and drank tea with Mrs. Younghusband, where Laura is still. Bishop Watson's Apology for the Bible. Mr. Forster returned and staid all night.

Monday 11th. Wrote to Capt. Forster at Martinique about the £50 I was obliged to pay on his account. Mr. Forster

enclosed it in a letter to his brother there. Bishop Watson's Apology for the Bible. Life of Milton. Anne drove me out in the Gig. After dinner walk. Church. In the evening wrote to John in town. Life of Milton.

Tuesday 12. Wrote to Mr. Briggs, John's tutor at Eton, about his being chosen president for the Fête on the King's birth day. To Sir C. Hawkins about Miss Murray and Mr. Penwarne; interrupted. Rode with Anne. After dinner walked. Laura returned from Falmouth to dinner, where she had been since ¹. Mr. Forster came to tea, went to the Assembly and slept here. Read in H's Life of Milton.

Wednesday 13. Mr. Forster at breakfast. Mr. Thomas and Mr. Polwheele, who translated Theocritus and is writing the antiquities of Devonshire, called and staid great part of the morning. Rode. Walked. In the evening wrote to Mr. Tibbet, tenant at Allerdean, about the Whitsunday rent.

Thursday 14th. Wrote to Mr. Archdeacon Moore at Hevitree. Drove Laura in the Gig to Falmouth. Called on Mrs. Younghusband and Mr. Fr. Forster, of whom I took leave; he and his set out for London. They did not go, and Mr. F. Forster came to tea and slept here, which prevented my doing any thing. Ill all night in my bowells: hardly closed my eyes.

Friday 15th. Bishop Watson's answer to Paine. Still very indifferent.² Capt. Mukins called. Drove Laura in the Gig. After dinner Budoc Church. Anne and Laura went in the Gig to Falmouth to take tea with Miss Carlyon and meet the Miss Coodes. Finished Bp. Watson. Admirable! Argumentative, ingenious, liberal, yet properly indignant. Some, perhaps, may think, he has been lax in orthodoxy and granted too much and too well-bred and indulgent to so ignorant and scurrilous a fellow.

Hayley labours, perhaps heavily, to defend Milton, who, notwithstanding, was a factious subject and an unkind

¹ A blank space left for filling in the date.

² In health.

parent. The world will still agree with T. Warton, Johnson, and Gibbon in their opinion of the pernicious tendency of his Prose Works, even now.

Still much indisposed.

Saturday 16th. Thermometer 52 in the library. Breakfasted without a fire. Looking into Hayley's Life of Milton again. Anne drove me in the chair to Bos[†] (Capt. Moore's) to enquire if her acquaintance Miss Brown was come from Penzance. She is not expected till next week. In the afternoon, Sermon.

Sunday 17th. Therm. 53. Breakfasted with all the windows open: the weather really delightful. Miss Stephens and F. Coode drank tea with Anne. Review and Magazines.

Monday 18th. Church at Budock. Therm. 53: quite warm. Rode round by Falmouth. Read in Hayley's Life of Milton; laboured, sometimes puerile. Tells us a little more of his private manners and life. W^d fain make him amiable. How did he breed his daughters? Walked. Church here. In the evening wrote to Mrs. Forster in the North, lending £10 more—£50: says she will give a receipt for the whole as part of her uncle's legacy, that no claim may be made on me. How difficult it is to keep resolutions!

Tuesday 19th. Therm. 55: very fine. In the morning directing the workmen about another window in the library, w^{ch} will give a fine view of the country, water &c., and was originally intended. The builder and contractor, Williams, said it might be struck out at any time, nothing being required but the sash, but he deceived and cheated me. It was not even in the centre (the opening) and a frame as well as sash were necessary. It is difficult to manage ordinary tradesmen. If you contract, they slight the work and give bad materials; if you employ them by the day, they spin out the time. The window will induce me to live almost intirely in that room. Rode. In the evening walked in the Cliff-garden and heard the Band of the Worcestershire Militia.

† A blank space left for filling in the name.

Read Milton's Life, Xenophon &c. Fatigued, went early to bed.

Wednesday 20th. Therm. 55: very fine. Miss Stephens came to breakfast. Read a little in Hayley. Wrote to Mr. Willoby to let Mrs. Forster have ten pounds and at her desire to take a receipt for it and £40 she had before (besides her allowance) as part of her uncle's legacy. Removed the books of the Library till the window is put in. We supt at Mr. Johns with Mr. Coode's family, their little boy having been baptized: kept there till 12.

Thursday 21. Therm. 56. S.E.: very fine. Life of Milton in the morning. Gibbon's Memoirs in the evening. Rode before dinner, walked after.

Friday 22d. Looking into Gibbon's Memoirs of his life. Church. Anne drove me in the Gig. Mrs. Penrose drank tea with us; a talkative, fantastick, old little creature. Gibbon. Church. Therm. 56.

Saturday 23d. Therm. 58: still very fine. E. Gibbon's Memoirs.

Sunday 24. Therm. 56: W. very fine. Miss Stephens dined with Anne.

Monday 25th. Therm. 58: E. very hot. Gibbon. Rode. Mrs. Younghusband her daughter and little boy and Miss Stephens dined with us. Parish business at Roscrow in the evening. Mr. Warren returned and drank tea with me and staid till 9, a disagreeable, uninformed character.

Notwithstanding Gibbon's immense work he appears to have been by no means an assiduous student: he did not rise early and seldom read after one. The afternoons and evenings were always passed in Society, and not in learned society, but in that of persons ¹

He tells us he chose to derive his knowledge from books rather than from conversation. Great disadvantages in his early education. When admitted at Oxford, he knew little

¹ The page ends here with the sentence unfinished. But the diarist obviously meant to complete it; for he has left a blank space at the top of the next page.

Latin and no Greek. His example shows what perseverance will do, and that we may be accurate and elegant scholars without the aid of Eton or Westminster. He speaks almost illiberally of Oxford and with something like inveterate malice. His vanity nearly disgusts one, and he cannot conceal his dislike of the Church and the clergy. It is mean and almost treacherous in such men as Watson, Robertson, to pay him such compliments.

His first vol. was written in the bustle and agitation of a London and Parliamentary Life and he says he never wrote with more facility and ardour. His journal gives no account of the books he read and the method he pursued in composing his history: he seems to have one only in the early and least interesting part of his life.

Tuesday 26. Therm. 58. N.: still delightful. Gibbon. At half past eleven, Anne Robert and myself got on horseback to go to dine at Manaccan with Mr. and Mrs. Polwheele. (He wrote the history of Devonshire, translated Theocritus &c.). Mr. and Mrs. Thomas were there. We crossed Helford passage and they met us on the other side. We walked to the Vicarage up very hilly and steep ground; not ugly, and the river running up the valley with some wood on its banks is pleasing enough. The day passed very agreeably and¹ returned between eight and nine, when we drank tea a second time and went to bed at 11, having heard Anne read the N. Papers.

Wednesday 27th. Heard from J. James and his tutor Mr. Briggs. Therm. 56: very fine. W. Wrote to Mr. Boswell and Sir W^m. Forbes. Still Gibbon.

Thursday 28th. Therm. 60. W: very fine. After having run rapidly through Gibbon's Memoirs &c. began them a second time, more leisurely. Miss Younghusband staying with Laura. Miss Brown from Penzance called. Rode. Miss Stephens dined with Anne. Walked round after dinner. In the evening Gibbon. Says he would not exchange his

¹ After 'and' the diarist has omitted 'we'.

love of reading for the wealth of the Indies. Excessive vanity. Great animosity against Oxford. Too much about his first publication.

Friday 29th. Therm. 58. S.E. and S.W. Much desired and refreshing rain. Gibbon. Church. Anne and I rode to B.¹ (Mr. Moore's) to see Miss Brown. In coming home I fell down some stone steps.

Saturday 30th. Therm. 54. Showers. S.W. Lost all the morning in putting up my books in the Library, the window &c being finished. Anne drove to B. to bring Miss Brown. She and Miss Stephens dined with Anne. In the evening Church. Very little of Gibbon.

May

Sunday 1st. Miss Brown still with Anne. In the evening Gibbon. Wrote to Mr. Archdeacon Moore at Truro. Therm. 54.

Monday 2d. Rode to Truro to meet the Archdeacon at his visitation. Heard a tiresome sermon but a good charge. Attended the Eliot Trust. Declined dining with the crowd and took a family dinner with Mr. Carlyon. Saw Mr. Whitaker, Trist. Mr. W^m. Gregor took tea with us. The Archdeacon cannot come to me till Thursday.

Tuesday 3d. Therm. 54. In the morning, Budock Church, Gibbon. In the afternoon, Gluvias Church. After tea, Gibbon. Approve of his sentiments on the French Revolution. Much good sense in what he says respecting what he learnt by being in the Militia and in the House of Commons. There is a curious passage (Vol. 1st. 213) relative to Mr. Necker:

'I passed four days at the castle of Copet with Necker; and could have wished to have shown him, as a warning to any aspiring youth possessed with the demon of ambition. With all the means of private happiness in his power, he is the most miserable of human beings: the past, the

¹ A blank space left for filling in the name.

present, and the future are equally odious to him. When I suggested some domestic amusements of books, building, &c., he answered with a deep tone of despair: "Dans l'état où je suis, je ne puis sentir que le coup de vent qui m'a abbatu".'

'Of that father (to Madame de Staël, M. Necker) I have really a much higher idea than I ever had before; I saw a great deal of his mind, and all that I saw is fair and worthy, &c. Vol. 1st. p. 240.'

Gibbon says there is better conversation and more men of Letters among the people of fashion in Paris than in London. Vol. 1. 430.

Wednesday 4th. Therm. 52. N.E. Wrote to Frederic. Gibbon. Many trifling letters to Mr. Holroyd. Drove Laura in the Gig. After dinner walked round. In the evening, Gibbon. Wrote to Mr. Boswell about Frederic.

Thursday 5th. Therm. 47. N.E. Gibbon. Mr. Arch-deacon Moore came, dined and staid all night, a pleasant, agreeable, well-informed person and good scholar. Have known him since 1768 or 9. His conversation pleased me much; yet I think society always fatigues me. Before he came, I wrote to Octavius at Liskeard. After tea we called on Mr. George, chatted a quarter of an hour with him, and then paced my little circuit. We looked into and talked about Gibbon's 'Memoirs' &c. In the evening a letter from John from Eton with some very good Latin verses.

Friday 6th. Therm. 51. W. Gibbon. Budock Church. Miss Stephens dined with Anne. When I was walking after dinner, received a card from Mr. Price of Penzance, saying he and Dr. Giddy would drink tea with us. They came and staid supper till eleven. A sort of character. Pretending to antiquarian knowledge, with very little of it; a high Tory; the manner of one who has lived much with his inferiors; large property in Jamaica; something of the Planter's pomposity and parade; otherwise a good-humoured friendly person.

Saturday 7th. Therm. 52. W. Gibbon says:

'For my part I like to draw my information from books, and I am satisfied with polite attention and easy manners. . . . We have much to enjoy and something to do, which I take to be the happiest condition of human life . . . I might possess a sum, from one to two thousand pounds, neither buried in land, nor locked up in the funds, but free, light, and ready to obey any call of interest or pleasure or virtue, to defray any extraordinary expense, to support any delay or remove any obstacle. . . . They afford a new example (M. and Madame Necker) that persons who have tasted of greatness can seldom return with pleasure to a private station. . . . His (Mr. Pitt's) restraints on the smuggling of Tea have already ruined the East India Companies of Antwerp and Sweden, and that even the Dutch will scarcely think it worth their while to send any ships to China. . . . I can say from experience that the busiest season of life is the most happy; and I have no doubt that you will concur with me in this sentiment.'

(Robertson to Gibbon.)

Finished Gibbon's Letters: describe agreeably his domestick life, shew tenderness and attachment to his friends, and contain many just observations and interesting particulars, on our own affairs and those of France.

Rode out. Mr. Price and Dr. Giddy dined with us and staid till near ten. Both improve upon one. Heavy rain in the afternoon.

Sunday 8th. Therm. 55. Heavy showers. W. Gibbon's Journal, shews he always had a superior mind, even when a very young man; very useful in shewing how one ought to read.

Monday 9th. Therm. 58. W. in the morning at 9. Wrote to Mr. Strange, Chief Justice at Halifax. Gibbon. Rode. In the evening wrote to Mrs. Willoby at B.¹ Gibbon: his

¹ Berwick.

criticisms on Hurd, Longinus, Juvenal &c. are very uncommon in so young a man.

Tuesday 10th. Therm. 56. W. still. Gibbon's 2^d vol., which does not contain much. Rode with Anne. After dinner wrote to Mr. Gwatkin about my engraving of the Nativity, which ought to have been sent with his portrait of Sir J. Reynolds from London. In the evening after tea Gibbon. Meeting so much in his journal about Rome revives my early wish to record its Rise and Decline under the Papacy; but alas! how are the materials to be procured here. Gibbon has interrupted my other studies; must now return to them.

Wednesday 11th. Therm. 56. W: very windy. Still Gibbon. He seems to have kept a journal for a very few years, a regular one. Does not tell us in what manner he composed his history. He probably read only as he wrote. Surely not all the *sources* before, and then a second time. Reading with a view to composition and fame and profit must be infinitely more pleasing and interesting than reading merely for amusement and improvement. Rode alone. After dinner walked. In the evening wrote to J. James at Eton. Gibbon.

Thursday 12th. Therm. 56. S.W.: windy with showers. How difficult it is to persevere in any plan. Could not yet quit Gibbon. Antiquities, as he calls them, of the House of Brunswick. Probably with a view to some honourable and profitable acknowledgment. Surely there is a sameness and inflation in his manner. The stile of narration seems abandoned, or unknown to modern historians.

Uncomfortable all this day, not satisfied with myself. Since my being in this retirement might have done a great deal more: but what have I done? Alas! little or nothing.

Friday 13th. Therm. 54. S.W. Very windy with showers. Putting my books in order. Church. Rode and walked as usual. Looking at passages in Gibbon I had marked. How differently he and Johnson thought of the pleasures of study and composition.

Saturday 14th. Therm. 55. S.W.: still windy and unpleasant. [*The marked passages in Gibbon then follow*]:

'Next winter may be the crisis of our fate, and if you begin to improve the Constitution, you may be driven step by step from the disfranchisement of old Sarum to the King in Newgate, the Lords voted useless, the Bishops abolished, and a House of Commons without *articles* (sans culottes). . . . Do not, I beseech you, tamper with Parliamentary Representation. The present House of Commons forms, in *practice*, a body of gentlemen, who must always sympathize with the interests and opinions of the people; and the slightest innovation launches you, without rudder or compass, on a dark and dangerous ocean of theoretical experiment. On this subject I am indeed serious. Vol 1st. p. 271. . . . But I have long revolved in my mind another scheme of Biographical writing; the Lives, or rather the characters, of the most eminent Persons in Arts and Arms, in Church and State, who have flourished in Britain from the reign of Henry 8th to the present time.¹ . . . The subject, which w^d afford a rich display of human nature and domestic history, w^d powerfully address itself to the feelings of every Englishman p. 274. . . . Charles Fox is commenced patriot and is already attempting to pronounce the words *country, liberty, corruption* &c.; with what success time will discover. Feb. 21. 1772. Vol. 1st. p. 449.'

Sunday 15th. Therm. 54. N.W.: fair. Three of the Miss Coodes drank tea with Anne. Laura and Robert drank tea with Mrs. Fuller at Falmouth, a relation of Lord Bristol's, on whom we had called on Saturday. Read a little in Burney's *Life of Metastasio* just published.

Monday 16th. Therm. 53. N.W. Church. Memoirs of Metastasio. Rode. In the evening Tea at Mr. Spargoe's, Penryn. Metastasio. Did very little to-day. Mrs. Osborne, Mrs. and Miss Brown at Mr. Spargoe's. Insipid conversation.

¹ Gibbon's text gives 'age'.

Tuesday 17th. Therm. 50. E. Memoirs of Metastasio. Church. Rode. Four of Mrs. Fuller's children and Mrs. Younghusband and her children dined with us and staid till 8 o'clock. Then Church, News Papers. How little to-day. The education of children in the West Indies, greatly neglected.

Wednesday 18th. Therm. 53: strong East wind. Metastasio. Rode. Miss Stephens and her sister Julia dined here. Far from well. In the evening wrote to Mr. Boswell and to J. James at Eton.

Thursday 19th. Therm. 59: strong East wind. Metastasio's Letters very trifling and full of what appear *to us* excessive compliments. Tell on what occasions he wrote his various Poems. Does not appear to have written so much from the impulse of genius, as to gratify the Imperial Court. The singer Farinelli, his chief correspondent and friend. Great peculiarity in his manners and domestic habits. His biographer would make him a perfect¹. Certainly amiable and in general esteem. Not a person of extensive learning. The Letters tired me in Burney's version; I may like them better in Italian. He has taken no pains to connect them in an interesting way.

Laura and Robert dined at Falmouth with Mrs. Younghusband and the Miss Fullers; Laura brought up the youngest with her to stay. Miss Stephens dined here. Malone against Ireland's pretended discovery of MSS. of Shakspeare.

Friday 20th. Therm. 55. E.: slight showers. Malone. Church. Anne and I went to Mr. George's to see Ireland publication of the Shakspearian pieces, a gross imposition. Malone proves this with much curious reading and ingenuity and perhaps a little too much asperity and triumph. Neither the orthography, the phraseology, nor dates are of the age of Shakspeare. It is the most daring and extensive forgery we read of! We were also to have had S's library

¹ After 'perfect' some word like 'man' has been omitted.

with MSS. in his own hand-writing and signed with his own name. How absurd!

Saturday. Therm. 55. S.W.: fine rain. Malone. Church. After dinner rode with Anne. On returning found the Miss Fullers, who had come to tea. Wrote to Mr. Strange at Halifax, N. Scotia.

Sunday 22. Therm. 56. N.E.: very fine. Mr. Webber (who preached here) Miss Stephens and Miss Murray dined with us, and the Miss Coodes came to tea: all the evening lost. Mr. W. no curiosity; no conversation. News Papers.

Monday 23d. Therm. 56. N.E.: fine. Church at Budock. Anne drove me in the Chair. In the evening, Seward's Anecdotes.

Tuesday 24th. Therm. 60. N.E.: fine. At breakfast wrote to Mr. H. Dillon and to Octavius at Liskeard. Discomposed by Laura's temper. Rode out. Frederic Fuller dined with us and Anne took him in the afternoon on a Tea-party to Tremow. In the evening the anecdotes.

Wednesday 25th. Therm. 60. N.W. Very fine. The anecdotes contain a few curious, many trifling and suspicious, facts and discover no *mind* or criticism. He does not stop to consider or examine any thing, which would amuse and give variety to his book. Rode. In the evening, Anecdotes.

Thursday. Therm. 56. In many respects *χιλδρεν* interrupt *τραπεζι*, selfish, flighty, thoughtless and restless. Discomposed with Anne's *υπερασυναβλεπετα*. She does not consider the pain she gives me¹ Every day I feel more and more the loss of my beloved Anne.

Anecdotes: like them better the further I proceed. Tell me some things I knew not before. Anne drove me to Falmouth. We called on Mrs. Fuller and Mrs. Young-husband. Mrs. F. read us some of her own poetry and one of Lord Bristol's Letters. She describes well and her verses move tolerably. Laura staid with them to dinner. Robert

¹ In the original diary an attempt has been made, probably by the Rev. Charles Powlett, to obliterate this paternal reflection on the amiability of Nancy Temple.

went to tea to bring her home. Anne drank tea with Mrs. Johns at Penryn. Interrupted by Mr. Beverley and about the Licenses.

Friday 27th. Therm. 58. W. Anecdotes. Church. Rode. Capt. Mukins called about Desroches; would do nothing for the unhappy youth; who had escaped the Guillotine and is now a midshipman in the Nonsuch without friends, clothes or money. Wrote to the Mayor of Penryn at the Election dinner, hoping to get something from the guests and members chosen without opposition, but the French are held in such abhorrence, and deservedly, that nothing was given. Walked round. Anecdotes. Ill of a cold in my eyes and head.

Saturday 28th. Therm. 56. W. Not genial but cold and windy. Anecdotes. Three books of Mr. Knight's Poem on the Progress of Civil Society. Sermon.

Sunday. All Mrs. Fuller's children dined here, Anne having brought up two of them in the Gig after Morning Prayer. Miss Stephens also dined, and Miss F. Coode drank tea. It raining very hard in the evening, Mrs. Fuller sent a chaise for the children. Anecdotes and News Papers.

Monday 30th. Therm. 58. S.W. Quite a storm of wind and rain. Finished Seward's Anecdotes, he grows more interesting as he advances and dares sometimes to reflect and give an opinion. His stile has neither elegance nor purity. He made me acquainted with the names of several books w^{ch} I s^d wish to meet with and often roused my emulation in the characters he draws.

This quite a wintry day. Could not ride nor walk. In the evening read the three remaining books of Knight's Poem, hastily. It only makes one regret Mr. Gray did not accomplish his on the same subject; yet it has many vigorous and harmonious passages, and several lines that are hardly rhyme, and some indiscrete and weak opinions about Priests and the present measures of government. We are so conceited and so apt to judge without knowledge.

Tuesday 31st. Therm. 58. W. Still wind and rain. We have always had a fire in the evening. Wrote to Mr. Baron at L.¹ about Octavius's coming home for the holidays. Looked into Beloe's Miscellanies; seem merely printed extracts from his commonplace book. Took up Gibbon and read his observations on the reign of Commodus. Wrote a little. Rode. After dinner walked in the Grounds. In the evening Beloe. Shocked with an account of the unaccountable death of Lord Charles Townshend, who spent some days with us at Blundeston when we were with Nicholls last summer. Lord C. and Lord Frederic came immediately from Yarmouth where the former had been elected member. Their behaviour was so extraordinary that they were both suspected to be disordered in their minds. They set off in a post chaise for London. Sir Edmund L.² apprehending some fatal accident, followed in the Mail-coach, but alas! ineffectually. Lord C. had either shot himself, or been shot by his brother in the chaise. Perhaps this sudden insanity might be owing to the flutter and agitation occasioned by the irregularities and excesses usual, almost unavoidable at Elections—such times. Lord F. was the mildest, best-humoured creature imaginable; and they both were greatly attached to each other. I suspect a very disagreeable cause of this calamity, but shall wait till I hear from Nicholls. How fatal are often the errors of our youth: yet how difficult to resist desire, temptation, company, example! What a blessing is a sound mind and how ought we to pray for the continuance of it! The poor old Marquess and his amiable Lady, how much are they to be pitied. And Lord F. he never can know enjoyment more. Nothing could be more engaging than the manners of these two ill-fated youths. What is rank, what is Nobility, what is Life?

June

Wednesday 1st. Therm. 60. W. showery. Looking again into Hayley's Life of Milton. Rode and called on Mr. and

¹ Lostwithiel.

² A blank space left for filling in the name.

Mrs. Enys. After dinner my usual walk and then Beloe's Miscellanies. No variety or discrimination of character in these Eastern Stories. Shew the wretched expedients illiterate princes must have recourse to, to amuse and fill up their time. Examine in disguise because they cannot depend on the honour and integrity of judges and magistrates. The mind so debased by Despotism as to submit without murmuring and even with a sort of *pious* resignation to the most arbitrary and capricious punishments. These apologues have the merit of delineating the manners of the people and the nature and spirit of the government. In how small a proportion of the Globe does moderate government prevail. How fortunate in this respect is Europe, yet the French seem to threaten to overturn this enviable system. How dreadful it is when the ignorant and ferocious multitude get power into their hands! No excesses equal to theirs. The present progress of these worse than Savages in Italy is really alarming. The plunder of that rich, unwarlike country will feed and sharpen their destructive cravings. Surely we live in a critical period. We have done all we c^d to check this frenzy. Nothing but a general and sincere union of the several Powers can preserve the present mild and civilized condition of Europe: yet how difficult! Short-sighted self-interest will be ever obstructing. My mind is by no means at ease. How instantaneously almost was the ancient, the revered monarchy of our Neighbours overturned, tho' supported by such inveterate prejudices, by reverence, almost veneration for the monarch and his Race, by so numerous a Nobility, Clergy, and Army! And what factious and desperate spirits have we amongst us? God only knows what a very short time may produce. I much fear nothing good. Some of Cicero ad Familiares: chiefly recommendations of those connected with him by attachment, services, or studies. Recommends with warmth and in the highest and handsomest terms.

How difficult it is to adhere to a plan. Will now return to

Greek, Italian, Hooker, the Bible, Barrow, my papers and reading relative to Modern Rome. Must accomplish something. Uneasy and dissatisfied wth myself. The distance from Libraries has always damped my Literary pursuits. Had I been more conveniently situated I certainly should at least have made more attempts. Yet Whitaker and Polwhele contrive better.

Thursday 2d. Therm. 53. W. heavy showers, cold, uncomfortable, damp. Feel the effects in my eyes and head. Wrote to Frederick in London. Denina. Rain prevented my riding. After dinner a vol. of what Mr. Beloe calls Poetry, properly Insipidity. After tea Cicero, Denina. Read Letters from Frank from Halifax and from Mr. Strange, the Chief Justice there. Still indisposed by a cold.

Friday 3d. Therm. 55. Wrote a long letter to Mr. Strange at Halifax and sent him a box of books for the library he has founded in that province: this is the second. A chapter in Denina. Rode with Anne and called on Mrs. Y.¹ and Mrs. Fuller at Falmouth to ask the girls to come to the ball on the King's birth day. At church before. Walked after dinner. Sent the books to Falmouth and wrote another short letter with them. Wrote to Mr. Carrington at Exeter with a bill. In the evening Cicero. How affectionate, yet how desponding, are his letters to Terentia. Who could suppose that they could afterwards separate, marry &c. It is consoling to inferiority to see a man of such talents and genius so dispirited and subdued by Popular folly and madness.

Saturday 4th. Therm. 56. W. Windy. A little in Cicero and Denina. Then rode. Sermon. Anne drove to Falmouth and brought up Mrs. Fuller's four children to go to the ball it being the King's birth day and stay till Wednesday.

Sunday 5th. Therm. 54. W. They and Miss Stephens dined with us. Children troublesome, their humours being so uncertain. Laura too irritates them.

Monday 6th. Therm. 58. W. showers. How very diffi-

¹ Younghusband.

cult it is to do any thing one intends: unlooked-for obstacles are ever occurring. In the morning Voyage Pittoresque de la Grèce, and in the account of Paros the satyrist Archilochus being mentioned, read his life in the Memoirs of the Academy and in Anacharsis. A proof that great talents, vices, and imprudence may consist in the same character. The Greeks were commonly very good or very bad men; the same sensibility and ardour producing opposite effects. Anne &c went to a Tea party and dance in the Country.

Tuesday 7th. Therm. 59. S.W. Voyage Pittoresque and finished the Life of the poet Archilochus. Rode. In the afternoon, Church duty at Budoc. In the evening nothing but the News Papers: these children are an interruption. Wrote also in the morning a long letter to Mr. Boswell, respecting Frederic and John.

Wednesday 8th. Therm. 60. S.W. Voyage Pittoresque &c. Wrote a long letter to Mr. Boswell about John &c. Octavius came home from Liskeard for the holidays. Rode. Mrs. Johns and Miss Coode drank tea with Anne. In the evening Cicero. Mrs. Fuller's four children and Delaval Younghusband still with us.

Thursday 9th. Therm. 62. W. Our young visitors left us, Anne driving Miss Fuller and one of her little sisters in the Gig. The morning interrupted. Read Voyage Pittoresque: think it hardly answers the Title. Having read Anacharsis first, do not find it so interesting, unless by the engravings. Cicero. Rode. Miss Stephens dined with Anne. After dinner walked round. Church duty. Denina. Cicero. Made some extracts from Voyage Pit:

Friday 10th. Therm. 59. S.W. Voyage Pitt: Rode. In the evening wrote John at Eton and to Sir C. Hawkins at Trewithen. Denina. Interrupted in the morning by Miss Penrose. At Church.

Saturday 11th. Therm. 61. N.W. Wrote again to J. James at Eton. Voyage Pitt: Denina.

Sunday 12th. Therm. 61. W. Being alone, asked Miss

Murray to make Tea for me: thought she would amuse me: fatigued me, staying too long, out of civility. Anne at Mrs. Johns's. Laura and Frederic at Mrs. Fuller's at Falmouth. Read nothing to-day. The duty affects my head, and indisposes for reading.

Monday 13th. Therm. 60. At breakfast began a Letter to Nicholls w^{ch} I finished. Read in Denina and Voyage Pitt: Called on the Militia Officers of the Wiltshire. Intended to ride, but hearing that Mr. Polwhele was at the Vicarage returned, but he could not stay and was gone. Then took my intended ride, a short one. Mrs. Younghusband and her children and all the Fullers dined with us. Miss Stephens and Miss F. Coode came to tea. Read nothing this evening. Received by the packet from Halifax Letters from Mr. Strange and Frank.

Tuesday 14th. Therm. 59. S. rain. Wrote long Letters to Mr. Strange and Frank at Halifax, in answer to those I received on Monday. In the evening looking into the Review and Magazine of the month and the 4th volume of Seward's Anecdotes. Little Younghusband and one of the Fullers came to dine with Octavius.

Wednesday 15th. Therm. 60. N. Wrote to Sir C. Hawkins, Mr. Archdeacon Barnes, Messrs. Antrobus. Looking into the 4th vol. of the Anecdotes.

Thursday 16th. Therm. 58. S.W. Began a letter at breakfast to Miss Stowe. Anecdotes. Rode. Finished the Anecdotes. Such kind of reading amuses and excites emulation. We wish to imitate the amiable and estimable qualities of worthy characters. Would the impression were lasting! Denina, Cicero, in the evening. Church.

Friday 17th. Therm. 60. S.W. At breakfast, went on with my Letter to Miss Stowe. Voyage Pitto:. Anne drove me in the Gig; we called on Miss Penrose. We returned and, to please Laura and Octavius, I let them drive the same round, riding by them. In the afternoon they drank tea with the Fuller family at Falmouth and Anne with Mrs. Johns.

Walked as usual, finished and read my Letter to Miss Stowe. Voyage Pittoresque.

Saturday 18th. Therm. 62. N.W. Finished the first vol. of Voyage Pitt.: Rode. In the evening Sermon. Octavius and Laura went in the Gig to Truro with the Fullers and Mrs. Y.

Sunday 19th. Therm. 59. N.W. Miss Stephen and Miss F. Coode and Captains Egerton, Gregory, Wychcoombe of the Wiltshire Militia drank tea here. Robert and Octavius walked to Falmouth for Miss Fuller—to bring her up.

Monday 20th. Therm. 62. S.W. Denina till I rode and parts of Gibbon. Papal Rome is so connected with all the countries of Europe that its history would be an immense work. How accomplish it or get material here! Yet what a noble pursuit would it be!.

Looking over the titles of the Memoirs of the French Academy.

Tuesday 21st. Therm. 57. N. Denina, Cicero, Xenophon. My ardour for Italian history revives. Think what I have so long intended would be interesting. Rode. Mr. and Miss Fuller came to dinner and went in the evening with Anne &c to the Assembly room. Denina and Gibbon till 10 o'clock.

Wednesday 22. Therm. 57. W. In future hope to regulate my hours in this manner. Rise at 7. I take an hour or rather more to shave &c. Bible and Barrow till 9. Breakfast. Till I ride out at one, my Papers. A little Greek every day for half an hour at least. after dinner walk round the garden. Read, or write any necessary Letters till tea. Read till 9 or 10, then Prayers and in bed by 11.

In the morning Bible, Barrow, Xenophon and a Dissertation de l'Urbanité Romaine in the Memoirs of the Academy. Rode. After dinner Anne drove me in the Gig about 2 miles to drink tea with Miss F. Penrose and to meet the Miss Coodes. We walked home. The Fullers still here. Read nothing this evening.

Thursday 22d. Therm. 60. W. Xenophon. Cicero. Finished the Dissertation. Rode. Miss Stephens and Miss F. Coode came to tea. Very uncomfortable all this day. Bible and Barrow in the evening.

Friday 23d. Therm. 65. W. Bible, Barrow, Denina. To please them let Master Fuller and Octavius drive me alternately in the Gig. Laura returned in the evening from Falmouth. Rude and disagreeable. Miss Stephens and her sister B. drank tea with Anne. Octavius's propensity to perverseness must be checked. Children when young are always bickering. To be a parent without an assistant is a hard task. Always doing something to discompose and interrupt tranquillity.

Saturday 25th. Therm. 64. N.W. Sermon. Drove Laura to Falmouth to see Mrs. Fuller &c. Her son Frederick rode by us. Wrote a long letter to Mr. Price of Penzance, w^{ch} Mr. H. Fuller engaged to deliver.

Sunday 26th. Therm. 62. S.W. Rain in the morning. Sunday.

Monday 27th. Therm. 62. Much discomposed to-day with the children: difficult to please or keep them in humour with one another, envious and jealous. O, my beloved Anne, how I miss your care and assistance every day, every hour!

Read in Denina, Xenophon &c. but without any comfort.

Anne drove to Falmouth after dinner to bring up Laura to go to a Tea party in the evening. I then drove out a little round alone. My time slips away and I do nothing. Bible. Barrow.

Tuesday 28th. Therm. 58. S. Showers. Denina, Bible and Barrow. In the afternoon drank tea at Mrs. Buckingham's with Mr. F. Vyvyan, two Miss Johns and Miss Murray.

Wednesday 29th. Therm. 60. W. In the morning rode to Falmouth to go to Church and dine with Chancellor Barnes at his Court. We drank tea at Mr. Webber's. On my return in the evening found Mr. Baron, who had come to dinner.

Walked with him: finished a Letter to Mr. Alexander Boswell son and Representative of my dear Friend on his return from Leipzig and coming of age. Inclosed it in a short one to his uncle Mr. D. Boswell. Read nothing to-day.

Thursday 30th. Therm. 62. W. In the morning rode along the sea-coast with Mr. Baron. Serene and charming. In the evening read a little in Denina.

July

Friday 1st. Therm. 62. W. Wrote to Mr. T. D. Boswell returning the memorial to Mr. Secretary Windham respecting Capt. Forster's bill. At Church. Denina &c in the evening.

Saturday 2d. Therm. 63. W. Denina. Drove to Falmouth in the Gig and brought up Miss Fuller to dinner and to a dance Anne gave to her young friends in the evening.

Two Miss Johns of Helstone, three Miss Coodes, Miss Stephens, Miss Kivill [Mrs. Buckingham came a volunteer][†] Col. George, Lieut. Dagge, Capt. Egerton and Capt. Gregory of the Wiltshire militia. They staid till past eleven and seemed very happy.

Wrote a few pages in the morning, and snatched some moments in the evening and on Sunday before prayers, of a Sermon respecting inhumanity to animals, induced by a Bull-baiting in the parish: a brutal amusement.

Sunday 3d. Therm. 63. W. Miss Stephens, Miss Fuller and her brother Frederic dined with Anne. Miss F. returned to Falmouth in the evening. Frederic remained with Octavius. Denina.

Monday 4th. Therm. 63. W. In the morning read two Dissertations in the Memoirs of the F. Academy with regard to the unjust prosecution of Jacques Cour, a useful subject in the reign of Charles VIIth. His great wealth and talents seem to have been his only crimes. His immense property and riches were divided among his accusers, who were also

[†] The oblong brackets are inserted by the diarist.

his judges: his services to his country excited the envy of his rivals. Charles ought to have protected so useful and valuable a subject, but how rarely do Princes see with their own eyes?

Let the boys drive me alternately in the Gig and rode. After dinner they all went to a Tea-party in the Country. Having a head ach I walked round the Grounds, and at 6 rode round Carclew Common. Fear of rain made them return after Tea and adjourn to the Assembly room where they danced till eleven. They all went, Anne, Laura, Robert, Octavius, and Frederick Fuller. I drank tea alone between 7 and 8, and read Denina till 10. Bible.

Tuesday 5th. Therm. 61. S.West. In the morning, read in Denina. Disordered in my bowells. Octavius and Frederic Fuller drove me in the Gig to the Common when I got out and rode as far as Enys. After dinner walked round. Laura and Frederic Fuller walked to Falmouth to tea and returned in the Evening. Dinner. Life of Johnson. Showers to-day.

Wednesday 6th. Therm. 62. S.W. Looking into the Papal history with a view to my long intended Work. Fear it will be difficult to make the Religious controversies interesting, yet they must be introduced, as the increase of the Papal power was much owing to them.

Denina. Rode. Usual walk after dinner. Denina. Some eloges in the Hist: of the French Academy.

Thursday 7th. Therm. 62. W. At breakfast and after a long letter to Mr. Nicholls about his writing to Mr. Windham, Secretary at War, to aid me in recovering my £50 from Capt. Forster: and about Gibbon's Memoirs &c. Read several Eloges in the Memoirs of the French Academy: they amuse and excite emulation. They show what difficulties men of Letters and Genius have to combat and how they surmount them. In modern times, in general, men of Letters have set out in Poverty. It was not so anciently; Letters chiefly cultivated by the Rich and Great. Indeed Virgil and

Horace were originally poor, but public manners had undergone a considerable change in their times. Even after the subversion of the Republic, several of the Emperors valued themselves on their Literary talents. Yet Cicero often apologises for cultivating Philosophy. Cato, Brutus, Caesar, and indeed all the great men of Rome (far greater than European Princes) and afterwards the Plinys &c. were all hard students and authors. It was not then the fashion to suppose that affairs and Study were inconsistent: a notion we owe to the indolence and frivolousness of Courts.

Friday 8th. Therm. 58. S.W. Frequent showers. More of the French Eloges. Astonishing instances of assiduity and perseverance. Men of Letters did not then mix with the World as they do now. Yet they did not do more nor so well as we do. Reading seems to have been in them a passion indulged to excess; it made them neglect and disregard both health and fortune. The ancients blended study, exercise and conversation and were particularly attentive to health and the care of the body. Their baths, frictions, walks on foot, airings in carriages are frequently alluded to in Cicero's Epistles, Pliny's &c. They certainly studied, attended to agreeable sensations and enjoyment and understood them better than we do. Owing to inattention to what is so requisite our men of Letters lose more than they gain, by gout, gravel, palsy, sight impaired and abridged life. We have seen what Hume and Gibbon could do, though far from Recluses. It is said of the first that he hastened his death by sensuality, and of the latter that he had not courage to consult his surgeon and take proper precautions. Their voluminous histories employed a very small proportion of their lives. I think every two 4to vols. did not cost them more than two years. I suppose they *read* as they *wrote* and not before.

In the morning Bible, Barrow. More of the Eloges in the evening.

Saturday 9th. Therm. 58. S. Rain great part of the day.

Sermon on humanity to animals occasioned by a bull-baiting. Could neither walk nor ride—prevented by the rain.

Sunday 10th. Therm. 58. W. Mrs. Johns, 2 Miss Coodes, Miss Stephens and Miss Hughes, a young quaker from Bristol, drank tea with Anne. Frederic Fuller still here with Octavius. The petulance, frowardness, jealousy and envy of children a great source of uneasiness. Hardly ever sit down with them that I am not discomposed. The loss of a mother the greatest of misfortunes. One can hardly conceive the innumerable occasions I have to lament the want of her assistance.

Monday 11th. Therm. 58. W. Trifled away the morning in looking at Catalogues and in vain regrets in being at such a distance from Libraries and the great sources of information; yet must attempt something to keep me in humour with myself and for the good of my Family, who daily expect more from me. Read more of the Eloges, w^{ch} excite emulation, as they shew what may be done and it is much pleasanter to read with a view to a particular object. Alas! though my Life has been blameless, yet I fear it has not been useful; for what have I produced or done? One is almost afraid to examine too strictly. Yet gracious allowances will be made for temper, languor both of mind and body, distractions from a variety of causes. Hope to do better in future and pray for aid and resolution.

Took a long ride. Robert, Octavius and Laura walked with F. Fuller to Falmouth to tea and left him there. Miss Stephens drank tea with Anne. More of the Eloges. Very uncomfortable all this day.

Tuesday 12th. Therm. 58. W. Bible and Barrow before breakfast. Very soft and mild to-day. No conjecturing what the temperature and feel of the air will be in this climate; one day is genial and delightful and the next, cold, raw and wintry.

Mr. Davies Giddy called and staid till one: has much

information and quickness of ideas, yet for want of seeing good company is more engrossed by what he says himself, than to what is said by others: came to try Hornblower's improved fire engine. When he left us I rode out. In the afternoon, it rained and I was drowsy. After coffee I read in Denina and in Bowyer's history of the Popes.

Wednesday 13th. Therm. 60. W. Bible and Barrow before breakfast. Wrote a long Letter to Sir C. Hawkins, in answer to one received last night and to a former one. Slept very ill last night. Read Denina and looked into Bowyer. Rode in rain.

Am discomposed with Octavius, who grows very rude and troublesome. Holidays too long. What uneasiness do children give one from the very first. Miss Stephens came before we had finished dinner. In the evening, Bowyer again but read with no pleasure. Harrassed, out of spirits. Make no progress, do nothing. How difficult it is to be regular in any thing one wishes!

Thursday 14th. Therm. 60. S.W. In the morning Denina, Barrow, Bible, *Memoirs¹ de l'Academie.*¹ The rain prevented my riding before and walking after dinner. La Fontaine, Cicero, Xenophon. This close, moist weather makes me drowsy. Find that my eyes are not so good as they were. Glasses make me see clearer.

Friday 15th. Therm. 61. S.E. Rain: close, moist. A dissertation in *Memoirs de l'Academie*. Rode. Walked round after dinner. Reviews and Magazines for June. Octavius rode to Falmouth and brought up Fred Fuller. Miss Stephens drank tea with Anne.

Saturday 16th. Therm. 61. S.W. Sermon. Part of a Dissertation.

Sunday 17th. Therm. 60. S.W. Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Gould of Milor called before Church. We drank tea with Mr. W^m. Richards at Penryn. Met there Mr. Coode's family. As we were walking saw Mrs. Enys and her sister Miss

¹ So the diarist spells the word.

Villebois coming from the Vicarage, where they had called; I joined them and walked great part of the way to Enys with them. Returned a little fatigued, heard Anne read the News Papers, put my feet in warm water and went to bed about eleven.

Monday 18th. Therm. 61. Heavy rain and wind. De la vie privée des Romains par M. L'Abbé Couture: curious, but spun out too much.

Wrote long letters to Mr. Nicholls, Mr. Boswell, and Mr. Gwatkin. Obligated to correct Octavius. The petulance, jealousy and violence of children continually interrupting tranquillity of mind.

Tuesday 19th. Therm 60. S.W. Showers. Rec^d a long letter from Sir W^m. Forbes respecting my dear Boswell's Letters and Papers. In the morning read a dissertation in *Memoirs de l'Academie* by M. Mongault Sur les honneurs divins qui ont été rendus aux Gouverneurs des Provinces pendant que la République subsistoit. He shows that all the honours that were paid to the Emperors during their lives had been paid before in the Times of the Republic to the Governors of Provinces.

Octavius rode to Mr. Gwatkin's (Killiow) and to Truro to meet Mr. Powlett: they arrived about 3. We walked after Tea and I heard the News Papers.

Wednesday 20th. Therm. 60. S.W. Windy, cold, ungenial. What a variable climate! The domestick Gods, worshipped by the ancients, were their ancestors or deceased parents. Read *Remarques sur le Fanum de Tullia*. The Romans paid a species of worship to their deceased parents and considered them as Gods: a proof this of a general belief of a future state.

Bible and Barrow before breakfast. Rode. After dinner walked and read the *Life of the miser Elwes*: a species of insanity. Anne, Laura, and Mr. Powlett drank tea at Mr. Penwarnes and did not return till 10. Read *Denina* and *Cicero*.

Thursday 21st. Therm. 62. W. windy. Bible. Can hardly recollect how this day passed.

Friday 22d. Therm. 61. W. windy with showers. Prayers at Church. Rode. Wrote long letters to Mr. Boswell and J. J. at Eton. Interrupted in the evening by Mr. B.

Saturday 23d. Therm. 59. S.W. Windy with showers. Octavius very reluctantly and with many tears set out in the Gig with Mr. Rowe to go to Liskeard. When they had proceeded a little way jumped out and obliged him to return, still crying and saying he should never see me again: dear, affectionate creature. With much entreaty I prevailed on him to get in again. Nothing can be more amiable than his disposition; he is quick, but soon comes to himself again and has no sullenness or malice: they do not make sufficient allowance for his tender years: this often hurts me.

Fred: Fuller returned to Falmouth with Robert. John's inattention to expense gives me great uneasiness. For two years to one Taylor £75 must be paid: besides other things he had at Eton. I am almost afraid to trust him at Oxford. Robert every day grows more troublesome and almost savage. One is violent and fickle, the other obstinate and conceited! Alas! where shall I find comfort? I think only in my books: but my sight is not so clear: the best of Life I fear is passed and *that* I should not wish to repeat. Oh Happiness! there is no such thing: even Octavius frequently gives me pain. A state of insensibility; a state of enjoyment or suffering. Octavius set out in the Gig with Mr. Rowe to return to Liskeard; but very reluctantly and with many tears; he even obliged him to return, leaping out of the chaise and very near hurting himself. At last he consented to proceed. I never knew him more affected: he sobbed and said he should not see me again. It went to my heart to part with him. I pray God to bless and preserve him. He has a most affectionate heart.

This morning scene made me ill-qualified to entertain a crowd at dinner, Mr. and Mrs. Gwatkin, Mr., Mrs., Major and

Mr. Francis Enys, Miss F. Penrose, Capt. Egerton, Mr. Gregory, Coombe, Wyche, officers of the Wiltshire Militia stationed at Penryn. Their Band played in the evening on the lawn; but, as it rained, obliged to call them in. Very little conversation. How seldom does company afford any amusement! Yet is necessary to keep up some kind of intercourse with neighbours. They staid till near tea.

Sunday 24th. Therm. 60. S.W. Miss F. Stephens dined with Anne. Miss F. Coode came to tea. As it rained very hard in the evening they slept here. Laura walked to Falmouth to take tea with the Fullers and was detained by the rain.

Wrote to John J. and to Mr. Boswell.

Frightful dreams to-night owing I suppose to tasting a very small slice of tongue contrary to my usual custom of never touching any thing after tea. Both Mind and Body are the Slaves of habit.

Monday 25th. Therm. 61. S.W. windy with frequent showers. Wrote to Octavius. To Mr. Douglas with regard to Miss Murray's illness and proper attendance. Bible and Denina. Anne and Mr. Powlett drove in his Gig to Falmouth to see the Fullers. Laura and Robert dined there. Captain Mukins called and prevented my riding. Bible.

Tuesday 26th. Therm. 62. S.W. windy with frequent and heavy showers. Bible. Barrow. Denina. Rode. Robert went and brought Laura from Falmouth.

Wednesday 27th. Therm. 60. S.W. Windy with frequent and heavy showers. Nothing like Summer. How one is discomposed by the petulance and frowardness of children. Laura very troublesome both last night and this morning. It is too much to be plagued both by her and Robert. Alas! what are the comforts of Parents! Denina. La Fontaine.

Thursday 28. Therm. 61. S.W. Wind. heavy showers. We drove in the two Gigs and brought up the Fullers to dinner. The rain kept them with us all night. In the evening

Mr. Powlett read to us a new Comedy, called Speculation, which made us laugh: one of the characters¹ tolerably drawn. Read nothing to-day but a little in the Bible, in Barrow, and in Jones's Life of Bishop Horne, lately come out.

Friday 29th. Therm. 62. S.W. Mr. Powlett having brought with him Jones's Life of Bishop Horne, I was induced to read it, to the interruption of my other readings. Gives some account of the Literary pursuits at Oxford, at that time tinctured with a species of enthusiasm. Dumay, the Jew, an extraordinary character. Horne and Warburton of very different Scholls: the former pious, but visionary.

Should like to see some of those authors (though long obsolete) who seem to have influenced his opinions, Hall, Andrews, Browning, Leslie, Jackson, Low, etc. Some very absurd suspicions of Jones with regard to Sir I. Newton and Dr. Clarke, as if they were materialists and wished to revive Paganism and substitute Jupiter instead of the Almighty. After such an instance what can we think of this writer's judgment or that of his friends in other matters. Hutchins means Hebraists. Seems to have believed in divine influences and² of the spirit.

Anne took Miss Fuller and Isabella back to Falmouth in the Gig. Laura and Robert walked with Louisa. They dined there, returning at night.

Saturday 30th. Therm. 60. S.E. Very fine. The Fullers set out for London.

Life of Bp. Horne.

Rode.

Sunday 31st. Therm. 61. S.W. Rain. Laura not well. Anne and Mr. Powlett drank tea with Mrs. Johns. Not a day passes in which I am not discomposed by *ροβερτ* and *λαυρα*. Finished the Life of Horne and the Appendix. The latter contains very little: he quotes my *youthful* Essay on the

¹ A blank space left for filling in the name.

² The word succeeding 'and' is illegible.

Clergy, written and published while I had Mamhead in Devonshire. His reflections, however, shew a feeling and reflecting mind.

August

Monday 1st. Therm. 62. S.W. Rain. Finished a Dissertation of M. Burette on La Danse des Anciens. The pantomime of ¹ carried to a high degree of perfection and of w^{ch} we can hardly have any notion; superior to painting or words. Bible. Barrow. Denina.

Tuesday, 2d. Therm. 62. S.W. Wind, rain. Very uncomfortable. Two Dissertations of M. Burette des Athletes. Rode.

Anne, Laura and Mr. Powlett went in the evening to a foolish dancing party, though it rained and Mr. P. had the tooth ache, agreeably to ηερ υσυαλ obstinacy: though οηε σαω how much he δισλικεδ it. γρωων Φονδ of δισσιπατιον and βειωγ αδμυρεδ.²—How λιττλε κομφορτ I have. Laura, Robert, even Octavius, John, Frederic, Frank. αλλ ιν τθειρ τυρνς. σο διδ ποορ *William & μι δεαρ Anne.*³

Books only afford pure and unalloyed pleasure; yet not always disposed to relish them owing to the Body, not the Mind: that always ardent, if bodily feeling would permit. Still remiss; no progress in my Papers. 8—9+10—1+6—10 but 8.

Wednesday 3d. Therm. 60. At Church. More of Burette. Miss Stephens dined here and they all went after Tea to Fal-mouth in the Gig and on horseback to hear the Band. πλαγνεδ αγαιν with the ρυδενεσσ & ιμπερτινενσε of Laura.—Impracticable to regulate & dispose of the hours as one wishes. J. Rowe went in the Gig to Bodmin for J. James returning wth young Tremayne and Trewicke from Eton.

Thursday 4th. Therm. 60. W. fine. We all went to Truro to meet John: till he came I read in the County Library

¹ A blank space left for filling in a word.

² A determined attempt has been made, probably by the Rev. Charles Powlett to obliterate this passage from 'though' to 'αδμυρεδ'.

³ An attempt has been made to obliterate the words in Greek characters.

August 1796

197

Reviews &c. Found John quite well; returned to dinner at five.

Friday 5th. Therm. 62. W. At Church; ill in my bowells.

Mr. Temple died Aug^t 13th.

[This addition seems to be in the hand-writing of the Rev. Charles Powlett.]

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